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DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &c.

AND NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURE.

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## Editorial.

### SEPTEMBER ON THE FARM.

*Agricultural Fairs*—During this month the farmers of New England yearly gather up the best products of their farms and carry them to some central point, where they can be arranged for public exhibition, and where all may come together to compare notes and renew a few days in social enjoyment. Whatever may be said against agricultural exhibitions from time to time, we are sure that the few gatherings during the year tend to rub off the sharp angles of character, and bind the masses of the more populous band, at these times, more firmly together. While the benefits resulting from their influence may be reduced to a minimum, and the actual advantages are of such a character as to warrant their continuance, the annual fair is the occasion when absent children and relatives return to their homes, and if possible make a visit for a few days visit to their parents, brothers, sisters, and schoolmates, and renew their affections and their kindred and their friendship. This going home to the old place, and to room where in early days we were born, where in early childhood we were nursed, should be encouraged, because it warms the heart and encourages the best qualities of man.

But while we remember the social advantages, we should not forget the educational. Every effort should be made to make them educational. Every statement should have a practical tendency to put the true name of the breed, the exact statement of any important quality; and every dish of fruit, or collection of vegetables, should be marked with the true name of the variety; thus giving visitors the best chance possible to learn the breeds of cattle and the varieties of fruits and vegetables. More can be learned in one day at a show thus arranged, than could be learned in a month by going from one farm to another; in fact, it would be like going from one farm to another to learn what could be learned at an exhibition, because there would be no chance for comparison.

In the selection of articles for exhibition, it is a mistake to make size the most important point; quality should always come in before size. An apple or a pear that is perfect for form, and well ripened, should be selected in preference to an imperfect or unripe one, though it be of a less size. Every farmer should have pride enough to contribute some of the products of his farm for the annual exhibition that is held in his county, and he should possess a desire for more knowledge sufficient to induce him to attend the exhibition, and carefully look over the articles and animals on exhibition; and he should be social enough to take his whole family to the show and enter into the festivities of the occasion with a zeal that will make him forget, for a time, the cares of the farm.

*Ensilage*—This is a crop which is too much neglected in New England, as it is one of the most profitable crops that the farmer grows, and at the same time one that does not draw very hard upon the soil; there seems to be no good reason why almost every farmer should not sow a few acres every year. It is a crop that follows corn or potatoes well; or it may be grown on new land, or old worn out grass land with success. Few crops will grow well on so great a variety of soils, and as it can be sown in the autumn after most of crops are harvested, it keeps the ground covered with a growing crop, when it is very desirable to do so. This is an important advantage which is too often overlooked by farmers. There is another advantage of this crop; if it is found in the spring, the grass crop is likely to be short, therefore can be cut green and made into hay in time to clear the land for a crop of corn or potatoes; but if it be found that the grass crop promises large, and that it will not be wanted for fodder, it can be permitted to get ripe, and the straw will sell for enough, in many portions of New England, to pay all of the expenses of the crop, leaving the grain as profit. The winter rye crop is very free from insect enemies, and quite certain to produce a good yield whether the season be wet or dry.

*The Orchard.*—By the end of the month all of the apples that have dropped should be picked up, so that what drop later will be separated from those that dropped early. As a rule, winter fruit should not be gathered until after the first of October; but the autumn fruit will most of it be gathered before the end of September. The trees should be examined this month for borers, and the young orchard should be carefully looked over, and all limbs that cross each other removed. This work can be done much better during warm weather than after winter sets in. After removing the borers a small mound of earth should be made around each tree to protect it during the winter from field mice.

*Swine.*—It is time to give more attention to the hogs if they are to be fat enough to kill Thanksgiving time. They should now receive a larger proportion of Indian meal than when smaller. Hogs that have been fed on swill, if the pork is to be sweet, should be taken from this food and fed on sweet meal and shorts; a few sweet apples will be excellent, and will give a variety as well as tend to make the hogs healthy.

*Poultry.*—Laying hens require close attention this month; the least neglect will reduce the number of eggs. During the moulting season a hen should be well fed with good sweet food in great variety, and it is important that the house should have a perfectly tight roof to keep the hens dry during the night, and they should have a shed open to the south with no floor to it, where they may find shelter in cold storms. Clean, fresh water, should be constantly before the hens and so arranged as to keep the dirt out of it. Ground oyster shells, lime and ashes should also be where the hens can get them, and fresh earth should be freely supplied to hens that are yarded. The early chicks, if properly cared for, will now begin to lay, and if to be made profitable, must be well fed.

### DEVELOPMENT OF DARYIING.

If any one branch of farming in New England has shown positive development of late years, it is the dairy; for it is every year becoming more evident that, while the farming of this section is to follow the established rule of variety, it is just as plain that that variety is to run in the line of special interests, such as dairying, the raising of poultry, the production of eggs, and the harvesting of apples and the smaller fruits and vegetables. Once have it clearly understood by our New England farmers that, while pursuing the customary course of mixed farming, they can profitably conduct their operations only by choosing some leading specialities according to the conditions imposed by soil, location, and markets, and they will find a large part of the heavy burden of existence lifted from their shoulders, and their work practically mapped out for them with much saving of time and effort in vain speculation and experimenting.

We speak of the dairy interests as probably the leading interest in the future farming of New England, and the facts already collected will abundantly bear out the statement. A dense population must necessarily draw more largely every year on the resources of the dairy farmer for its increasing total of its supplies of butter, cheese, and milk. It has ever been the case in all densely populated countries, as it notably is in England at present. There the working dairy, equipped as it is with the best machines, utensils, and appliances, and operated by the most skilled hands, has become an indispensable feature in the leading agricultural exhibitions. The dairy is one of the first things thought about and talked about by those who contemplate farming as an occupation. The papers have a great deal of descriptive comment to make upon it. It has grown to be fully as popular as horses and cattle. People are beginning to appreciate the developments it is capable of, and attach importance to it accordingly. It is, in truth, held to be the most important industry of the country.

A very interesting article on the subject by Professor Sheldon in the Mark Lane Express, speaks of the Working Dairy at the recent July show of the Royal Agricultural show at Norwich as one of the most interesting features in this year's meeting of the society. He ventures the assertion that Old England will become more and more a stock-raising, a beef-making, and a milk-producing country; in other words, a more essentially dairying country than it has ever been in the past; and he deems it wise to extend due recognition to this economic tendeucy. He says that from a second or third rate position in agriculture dairy farming has forged ahead so far that it now occupies a first, and this position it will continue to occupy. He states that the British Islands are eminently suited to stock-raising and milk-production. He forsees that it is probable that English farmers will be better able to hold their own in these departments than in others against foreign competition. He says he cannot but believe that in dairying and its cognate interests lies their chief hold on the future.

The growth of the modern milk trade is something almost phenomenal. Twenty years ago its present dimensions and importance were not dreamed of. Railroads and fast trains have been its most effective agents. In England, and to a certain extent with us, sanitary and adulteration acts have greatly contributed to it. It has been discovered that it is better to produce the milk where the food is grown, thus supplying the people of a metroplis like London, as well as those of our own cities, with country milk, and leaving the animal excreta where they are most wanted. As Professor Sheldon observes, cows are healthier in the country, their milk is more wholesome, and there is a prodigious economy in carriage. Under the conditions of the case milk-producing farms are kept fertile, while those farms which produce forage for sale are maintained at enormous cost or suffered to go out of conditon. The railway companies, he thinks, no doubt need to be persuaded into more favorable terms, and into the providing of better facilities for the conveyance of milk; yet he is convinced that these advantages will come before long, and coincidently an increased consumption of milk by urban populations.

The writer likewise credits the adulteration acts with much service in the development of the business. He rightly asserts that the public are shy of impoverished milk. He says there is no objection to a high price for milk, providing the milk is pure and good. In a sense milk is a luxury, and people chafe at being cheated in their luxuries. In a higher sense it is a food, and to be swindled in one's food is abominable. Good milk at a good price—is his general remark—is far better worth having than poor milk at a poor price, and people will take more of it. The production of milk is to be stimulated by the consumption of it, and for this end the public must have it pure, whatever its price.

The point is discussed that many farmers cannot sell milk because of their distance from a railroad to help them dispose of it in a wholesale way. Therefore they must make butter and cheese: and these stand in need of improvement. It is admitted that past hopes of improvement have not been very much realized. Professor Sheldon feels compelled to admit that cheese and butter, on the average do not appear to him to be decidedly better, than they were in 1870. Outside of the cheese factories and creameries the cheese and butter made in the country remain pretty much what they were before. The best qualities can be and are made in farm houses, yet the bulk of butter and cheese is absurdly below the possibilities. Reviewing past experience and summing up its teachings, the Professor says he has reluctantly arrived at the conclusion that a sensible and comprehensive measure of dairy reform will not be accomplished save by means of creameries and cheese factories. Allowing for the mistakes made in them, they appear to offer the best opportunities for solving the problem of dairy reform. And they work well along-side the milk trade, and in conjunction with it. They readily convert into butter and cheese the surplus of the trade in milk and cream. A trade in skim-milk is also a modern development in dairying; to this end the use of cream separators is an invention of inestimable value, since it turns out skim-milk as fresh as any milk can be, and exactly fulfills the conditions of a successful trade in that article of food.

Finally, the silage question is having a very great influence on the development of dairying business, well-preserved silage being admittedly an important factor in the question of winter dairying. It will yield more and better milk, in Professor Sheldon's opinion, than its equivalent in hay, owing to the easily digestible condition in which silage remains, as compared with an equal amount of forage preserved by desiccation. The only difficulty with it is that failures are sure to occur in its preservation under careless management. Yet there is no such difficulty as requires scientific knowledge, and with careful attention to well-ascertained principles, a good article can be secured by the rank and file of farmers.

### WHY HOGS HAVE THE CHOLERA.

The prevalence of hog cholera in several Western Massachusetts towns makes these observations of a contributor to the New York Tribune's agricultural department of interest: The fault is less in the hog than in the food and care. I have been familiar with the management of swine for more than forty years, and I know that more than nine-tenths of our hogs are stuffed with corn from the time they are weaned until they are sold, except perhaps for about four months of the summer, when they are kept on clover pasture. It is so handy to throw corn to the pigs, and they seem to relish it so well, and a fat pig looks so nice, that the farmers who grow breeding stock especially, stuff with corn so that at shipping time the pigs may show well, and even the more intelligent among them who acknowledge that it is wrong, say they are forced to do it or their pigs will not look or sell so well as those of their neighbors. After close observation and study for many years I am convinced that the most important thing to do to escape cholera is to feed less corn, particularly during the first six months of a pig's life. At this period fat is not what we want, as the animal is—or ought to be—building bone and muscle, and the food should largely consist of milk, bran, oats and grass. The pig fed liberally on this diet will develop better than one fed on corn, although it may not be so fat or look quite so well. During hot weather ground food made into slop is excellent for pigs, and careful attention should be given to its preparation. It should be mixed fresh every day and should be fed only slightly soured. During the hottest weather it is best to empty the barrel every day and start a new start, and in moderately hot weather a few gallons may be left to start a new fermentation, but the swill should never be allowed to become so sour as to offend the nose. Even in fattening hogs I do not think it economical or safe to feed all the corn they will eat, and nothing else with it, and I have found no other supplementary food so cheap and available as pumpkins.

I have never raised pigs on an exclusive corn diet, as most of my neighbors do, and I have never had a case of cholera, although it has prevailed on the farms adjoining mine and has swept off hogs by the hundreds in sight of my place. I believe that nine-tenths of the losses of hogs from disease can be traced to three causes, all of which are easily within the control of the breeder. These are: first, breeding from immature parents; second, an exclusive corn diet; third, bad wintering. Under the first head I think there has been a change for the better in the the last few years, but for many generations immature hogs and sows were the rule. Pigs of sows bred at eight months old and the tax of bearing and suckling their young came at a time when they were not more than half grown and needed to devote all their energies to their own developement. Under "bad winterings" I include not only the fact that the diet is corn solely, but also bad sleeping-quarters, the bed usually being either damp or dusty, and the allowing of a large number of hogs of different sizes and ages to eat and sleep together so that the younger and weaker, who need the best food and care, invariably fare the worst. When pigs are raised from mature mothers, fed during the first six months of their life largely on bran, oats and oil-meal, and wintered in small lots with good, dry, clean beds, and fed some loosening bulky food each day, such as beets, potatoes, etc., hog cholera will lose its terror.

### OSTRICH FEATHER FARMING.

A London correspondent writes that the exhibition in the Colonial Exhibition of a pair of stuffed ostriches gives rise to much gossip just now. Owing to their peculiar temper it was deemed imprudent to bring live birds from Cape Colony. The stuffed bird, then, is surrounded by a group of sundry chicks, from four to six months in age; and some of the anxieties and disappointments of the farmer may be understood from the fact that the chickens' feathers are useless until they are a year old; they are rarely cut before. At twelve months they are cut off; the stumps dry, and after a few weeks the bird sheds them, or they may be drawn out without pain and with ease. The feathers then take six months to grow before they can again be cut. Three pickings are obtainable in two years' time. The process of plucking continues for many years, but it requires the greatest care to prevent the feathers deteriorating. The feathers from the wild bird are the longest and finest, but rarely more than three on one bird are sufficiently perfect to render them fit for commerce. Hence the necessity of the farm. A male bird turns black at about the age of eighteen months. The black and black and white feathers are pulled from different parts of his body; white feathers come from one row only in the wing; tail feathers are never as white as those in the wing, and are usually bleached for "tips." So little is known about the habits of the ostrich that men who are large importers of feathers were surprised to find how the health of the bird affects its feathers. In many of the best feathers we saw what appeared a line running across the feather. This, we learned, was not caused by the packing string being too tightly tied, as the importer imagined, but by a day's illness. So delicate are the feathers, and so intimately and wonderfully connected with the organization of the bird, that a day's dyspepsia from over feeding will leave this mark. A delicate bird has its feathers more or less marked throughout. Ostriches are not camped out for breeding until the male is four and the hen is three years of age. They lay from ten to fifteen eggs, and incubate forty-two days. The male bird is a pattern husband and father; if accident should overtake his mate, it is most usual for him to continue the sitting, and he has constantly been known to bring off the brood successfully, "mothering" them with the greatest care until they can peck, which is not until three days after hatching. The nest of the ostrich is always in the sand, and is scratched out by the male bird. The hen forms a perfect wall of sand round her with her wings before the eggs are hatched. The ostrich knows no fear and is a formidable and dangerous opponent. Their cry, which answers to cock crowing, is a deep bellow that can be heard for a couple of miles and is called "bromming." The depression in ostrich farming has been caused by an over stocked market. Naturally those in climates suited to the bird imported them from the Cape. When the steed was stolen the Cape government locked the stable door; but, alas! the premium on every bird exported was too late a measure to prevent thriving farms growing in Australia and India, and it is with chagrin bordering on despair that Cape farmers find the retail trade gleaning the profits.

☞ The milch cow should be gentle, milk easily and give a fair flow of milk and hold out well. A cow that does not possess each one of these virtues is not a suitable animal to be kept long on the farm. Kicking and restless cows and cows that milk hard are nuisances and trying on the temper, and there is no call to keep them that their species may be propagated.

## Correspondence

### NOTES OF VERMONT FARMING.

*Editor of Massachusetts Ploughman:—*

In the northeast part of Windsor county is situated the town of Pomfret. It is a hilly town, very hilly, but these, although large, are of a good soil, mostly free from stone, and susceptible of cultivation to their summits. It looked a little strange to one living where the hills are not very high to see crops of English grain or corn growing upon the tops of these hills. It must be rather difficult farming under such disadvantages, but it is done, however, and from the appearance of a large share of the buildings and the farms themselves, the business is reasonably satisfactory and remunerative.

But interspersed in among the hills are lovely and productive vallies, in which almost all kinds of crops flourish. The farms here are not what would be called large, but they produce more than many of much larger size. This I believe to be preferable to large farms, as the country is thus more thickly settled, allowing of neighbors living nearer together, and as a general thing the farming will be done on a better scale than where double the area has to be gone over.

In what is called "North Pomfret" there is a nice little community of farmers. This neighborhood is celebrated for its Jersey stock, which now have been bred for a long time. Here live H. W. Vail, Eben Wood, the Whipples, and others who have a good reputation as breeders of fine Jerseys and the production of first-class butter. Winter dairying is largely practised here, and the butter commands good prices in Boston and other markets.

These farmers have bred with reference to the production of butter, are careful and liberal in their feeding and management, and as a consequence secure a large annual yield from their cows.

Partial soiling is practised, and for this purpose winter rye and corn are used.

The "Pomfret Jerseys" are well-known in this state and a large number have been sent west.

In visiting my friend H. W. Vail, who is the treasurer of the State Dairymen's Association, I was very much interested in his stock and farming. Part of his farm is natural grass land, that does not require ploughing, and produces large crops of hay. Upon his arable land he had this year fifteen acres of winter rye. This was harvested when in blossom and one-half made into hay and the remainder put in the silo. In addition, he will ensilage southern corn and field corn, after picking off the best ears. This has been his practice, mixing both kinds together as put in to the silo, and as the result a feed of excellent quality is afforded. He is inclined to the opinion that it would be more profitable for him to put the bulk of his field corn into ensilage, thus saving the expense of husking and grinding.

In doing this he would let the corn stand until commencing to glaze, and calculates that by the time the ensilage is wanted for use the ears would be sufficiently softened to be easily masticated. This, he thinks, would make excellent feed for the production of milk. He feeds part ensilage and part dry fodder, and gets good results in this way. Adjoining his barn he has a Pringle steamer by which he can cook any kind of feed in a short time, and by means of which he also can warm water for the stock in cold weather, or keep his animals comfortable in the barn.

He has some thirty Jerseys of all ages, all but two of which are either registered or entitled to registry in the herd-book of the American Jersey Cattle Club. He is taking much pains to get the best strains of blood with which to improve his stock, and for this purpose has representatives of the Welcome-Farmer's Glory, Rioter 2nd, etc., families in his herd. Among some other farmers I saw excellent animals—descendents of Duke of Darlington, Jersey Belle of Scituate, etc.

In other parts of the town considerable attention is paid by some to the Merino sheep industry, notwithstanding the long period of depression in this business. Among those thus engaged are A. E. Perkins, member of the State Board of Agriculture, and Judge Crosby Miller, and others.

This is a very pleasant part of the State to visit, as also are many other places in this county, and much information can be gained by those of an observing turn of mind.

E. R. Fowle,

*Vermont, 1886.*

### BOGUS CHEESE.

So much is said about bogus butter, and there is need of much being said, that the subject of adulterated cheese is comparatively seldom mentioned. It is an important matter, however. Oleomargarine cheese is no better than oleomargarine butter, and the man who makes the one is no better than the man who makes the other. They are both frauds. Both are sold as the pure article, though as a matter of fact adulterated cheese is oftener so sold than adulterated butter is. This is because the public at large is even less informed as to this rascality than they are with regard to the bogus butter villiany. In some respects we detest this business even more than we do the adulteration of butter, if that is possible. The unreasonable greed that is at the bottom of it is thoroughly detestable. We made cheese in this country of such a miserable, poor quality, and to such an extent, that we about destroyed the cheese market. We tried, or many of us tried, to get double profit by making butter and cheese from the same milk, and we overshot the mark, as excessive greed will often do. Still making the butter was not abandoned, and something had to be done. Adulteration was resorted to, and oleomargarine cheese was another fraud that was added to the long list of American swindles. It sometimes seems as if our people were stark mad in the presence of a dollar.

The result already is a lack of confidence that affects the dairy market, a diminished demand for American products and a consciousness that there is a very unpleasant amount of villiany in our commercial life. Down with oleomargarine butter and down with oleomargarine cheese, is what this journal advocates. Honesty, decency and honor are what is most needed in this country today. At present these do not seem to be popular in certain quarters where the professions would indicate a different state of affairs.—[Western Rural.

☞ It is said that the shrinkage value of butter handled in New York City during 1885 was nearly $2,000,000, partly on account of the bogus butter competition, but largely from the fact that many residents in the cities avoid being imposed upon by refusing to eat butter at all.


THE GREAT
AGRICULTURAL
FAIR!
—OF—
1886,
—OF THE—
NEW ENGLAND
AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY,
HELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE
Eastern Maine
State Fair Association.
IN THE CITY OF
BANGOR, ME.,
—ON—
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,
Aug. 31, Sept. 1, 2, and 3, 1886.
23rd Annual Exhibition.
THE OPENING.
Tuesday, August 31st, 1886.


[Special Correspondence of the *Ploughman*.]

BANGOR, ME., August 31, 1886.

The Twenty-third Annual Fair of the New England Agricultural Society, held this year, as last, in connection with the Eastern Maine State Fair, was formally opened at Maplewood Park this morning. The exhibits are very numerous in almost every department, and in some exceptionally large, while for quality they have rarely, if ever, been excelled. All the leading herds of cattle, with the exception of the Devons, are well represented, especially the Shorthorns, Herefords and Holsteins.

Burleigh & Bodwell, of Vassalboro', exhibit a very fine herd of Herefords, with the royal bulls "Hero" and "Assurance 3d" at the head. Among the cows, "Honest Mary" and "Verbena 14th" are noteworthy animals. They have also a superior herd of Swiss cattle, and several magnificent oxen.

Samuel Hodgson, of Meredith, N. H., shows thirty-two head—twenty-three Shorthorns and nine Swiss cattle. His Swiss bull is a four-year-old, weighing 1600 pounds. Among his Shorthorn cows are two, each weighing 1500 or 1600 pounds.

B. Sumner & Son, of Woodstock, Conn., have a small, but choice herd of Shorthorns' with the young bull "Lyonsdale," an animal of great promise, at its head. Among the cows are three "Constances," which have a distinguished leniage, being descendants of Col. King's famous 880,000 herd of Minnesota.

The principal exhibitors of Jerseys are O. Gardner, of Rockland, and N. P. Haskell, of Orono, who each show some very handsome animals.

John A. Bancroft, of Worcester, has nine head of substantial and hardy-looking Swiss cattle, the three-year-old bull "Bernard Tell" standing at their head.

Charles Robinson, of Barre Plains, Mass., P. M. Harwood, of Barre, Mass., and the Houghton Farm, exhibit handsome herds of Holsteins. Mr. Robinson's herd is headed by the noble-looking bull Lord Russell 2d, the winner of thirty-five prizes, and among the cows are three bearing the name of "Douglass," which has become famous in this breed, and several which have wonderful milk records.

C. H. Hayes, of Portsmouth, has a splendid herd of Ayrshires, consisting of eighteen head—three bulls, seven milch cows, four heifers, and four calves. The three-year-old bull Monte Cristo, a superior animal, leads the herd.

The exhibition of heavy cattle is quite remarkable, both in number and size. One exhibitor, E. A. Bailey, of Winthrop, shows twenty-seven Hereford oxen, the heaviest yoke weighing 5,770 pounds. He has also five pairs of steers, the heaviest weighing 4,170 pounds. E. Hunniwell, of South Windham exhibits a pair of two-year old Durham steers, weighing 3,050 pounds. These are only specimens; there are many other cattle on the ground of great girth and heavy weight.

The display of horses is unprecedented, the entries numbering over 250, and among them are several strikingly handsome animals, as well as some noted ones. It is expected that the trotting and running matches will be of universal interest and attractiveness.

Many of the prominent agricultural implement manufacturers and dealers are here, of course, as the New England Fair affords them an excellent opportunity to exhibit and advertise their wares. Parker & Wood, C. H. Thompson & Co., The Richardson Manufacturing Co., E. E. Lummus, Belcher & Taylor, Fred Atwood, and the Winthrop Agricultural Works, each have very large exhibits, in independent buildings or on large uncovered platforms, embracing almost every description of farm implements, so that the farmer may here witness the most improved machinery that has been devised to lighten his toil and select that which is best adapted to his needs.

The exhibits of sheep and swine are very choice. Probably the rule requiring all swine entered must be registered animals has had a tendency to secure a choicer selection, though it had the tendency to reduce the number somewhat.

The display of poultry, pigeons, etc., is very large and fine, and will no doubt attract its full share of attention from the eager crowds who, should the weather prove favorable, will visit the Fair during the week.

This morning the skies were unpropitious. A light rain fell during the night and continued until about nine o'clock, which doubtless prevented many from coming to the city to-day who would otherwise have done so. Nevertheless, a goodly number was upon the grounds at the hour announced for the opening of the exhibition. At eleven o'clock President Loring, accompanied by Secretary Needham, Treasurer Riddle, Hon. J. P. Bass, President of the Eastern Maine State Fair, and a large number of the Trustees and Members of the New England Agricultural Society, appeared in front of the President's Headquarters, when the openng address was delivered.

### OPENING ADDRESS
OF
### HON. GEO. B. LORING,

*President of New England Agricultural Society.*

*Gentlemen of the Society:*

We have assembled for the second time in this agricultural section of a state rich in natural resources, and offering unusual opportunities to industrial enterprise of almost every description. The State of Maine lying far up in the northern latitudes of the United States, continues to develope its many attractions year by year until it vies with many of those newer commonwealths, whose fertile soil and great forests have drawn together hardy, enterprising and successful multitudes of men. Those picturesque and romantic shores have furnished abodes for wealth and luxury, in which the art of man seems to vie with nature in creating structures appropriate to the beauty of the mountain and the sea. What the shores of the Mediterranean are to the European, the shores of Maine are fast becoming to the American, who, leaving the enervating influences of crowded cities, seeks invigoration in the arms of nature. I gave you last year a sketch of her agriculture which was encouraging and gratifying; and the personal observation I have since made of the farming in many sections of the State has satisfied me that care, diligence and good judgment, in the management of the land here meet with an ample reward. In addition to this the water-power of the State has not been neglected. For the benefit of the farmer, the manufacturer has built up local markets in which all the products of the soil find a ready sale, and in which the American policy of a mutual development of industries out of which our great prosperity has sprung, finds and admirable illustration. The production of agricultural implements to the amount of $661,0 0,—of boots and shoes amounting to $5,823,000; of cotton goods amounting to $13,319,363; of flouring and grist-mill products amounting to nearly $4,000,000; of foundry and machine-shop products amounting to $2,220,000; of tin ware manufactured amounting to $7,100,000; of lumber amounting to $7,593,000; of shipbuilding amounting to $2,909,846; of woolen goods amounting to $6,686,000—this production indicates the success of an intelligent energy in the application of skill to the materials provided by nature. In addition to this more than $2,000,000 is paid for quarries and other local industries of the State. But the section in which we have assembled is entitled to our special attention as representatives of the agriculture of New England, for the development and encouragement of which this society has been so long and so successfully devoted. We are in the neighborhood of

**A roostook County, the Garden**

of the east. Covering an area four times as large as Rhode Island, a third larger than Connecticut, three-fourths as large as Vermont and and four-fifths as large as New Hampshire, it is rich in soil and forests, in ores and quarries, in streams and lakes. A county in which three or four hundred bushels of potatoes are raised to the acre is entitled to the respect and admiration of every tiller of the soil. We are told that seven farmers in one section of this county raised from 505 acres in grain and 260 acres in potatoes, 520 tons of hay, 14,848 bushels of potatoes, 632 bushels of wheat, and 4,646 bushels of oats, 1,275 bushels of buckwheat, and 200 bushels of rye. And this section is but a sample of many others in the county. The cattle of the Aroostook are well known for their thrift and quality. It returns 9,004 horses, 2,262 working oxen, 12,461 cows and 14,031 other cattle, more "other cattle" than any other county in the State except Ox ord and Penobscot. The care and management of the farms in this county are worthy of great admiration; the condition of the lands and buildings indicating well-applied industry and wide-spread prosperity. I have made this statement of the agricultural condition of Aroostook because it presents, as I think, an excellent illustration of the progress of agriculture in many other parts of New England as well as possessing unusual merits of its own. This county was only incorporated in 1839 with a population of only 9,000. It now has fifty towns and surveyed townships. Whatever attractions it has are agricultural; and its growth has been on agriculture alone. It forms a part of that industry which produces in the United States more than 2,000,000,000 annually, and whose farms have nearly doubled in twenty years, having increased from 2,044,077 in 1860 to 4,008,907 in 1880. It forms moreover a part of the agriculture of New England, to whose present condition I desire to call the attention of those who are inclined to believe that agriculture here is on the decline. On examining statistics I find that the number of farms in New England has increased from 184,064 in 1860, to 187,-242 in 1880; and that the value of these farms has increased in the same period from $475,204,812 to $580,721,438. This increase arises partly from the advancing price of the land per acre in fortunate localities, and partly from the increasing value growing out of improved cultivation and the production of special crops of high market price.

**Great Increase of Crops in New England.**

A comparison of the crops grown at these two periods will also indicate where the growth is and where the decline, if any, may be found. The hay crop increased during these seven years from 3,869,140 tons to 4,063,847 tons. The corn crop fell from 9,174,5 5 bushels in 1860 to 8,376,308 in 1880—the crop of oats declined from 6,505,951 bushels in 186 to 7,821,861 in 1880. The potato crop increased from 21,402,927 bushels to 22,628,-269, while the number of horses increased from 248,992 to 336,327, and the number of cows increased from 680,930 to 746,656; the number of working oxen declined from 267,957 to 137,561 on account of the substitution of horses for farm work; and hence the value of the live stock, including sheep and swine, fell from $73,960,634 to $69,068,077. The amount of butter produced rose from 47,864,848 pounds to 52,463,129 pounds. The tobacco crop increased from 9,266,415 pounds to 19,726,398 pounds. No returns are obtainable of the value of farm products in 1860; but the census of 1880 gives this value at $156,035,349. The cereal product measured rose from 262,-783,372 in 1860 to $3,817,948 in 1880; and the market garden product increased from $2,170,008 to $3,241,732 during the same period. It will be seen from the statistics that the corn crop and the oat crop have diminished in every State except Vermont, the crop of potatoes has increased considerably in Connecticut, Maine, and Rhode Island, and fallen off in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont. The hay crop, one of the most important local crops has increased largely in each one of the New England States, and the production of butter also very largely in all the States except Rhode Island—the aggregate increase being more than 4,000,000 pounds. In all the States except Connecticut and New Hampshire the value of the live stock, notwithstanding the large abandonment of oxen and store cattle, has increased greatly. While the cash value no comparison with former years on account of the absence of data, it is interesting to know that in 1880 there were in New England 3,846,229 barnyard fowls, and that the farms sold during that that year 27,391,056 dozen of eggs. The amount of milk sold to factories was 61,921,015 cans; of the vast quantity of milk sold for domestic consumption we have no account.

**Farming Pays in New England.**

It is evident from these figures that the 187,252 farms in New England are yielding a good return to those who cultivate them. The New England farmer has learned that the market for his corn is essentially injured by the cheaper crops and easy transportation of the West, and he raises it as subsidiary only to his other crops and for home consumption. The same is true of his wheat and oats. He has learned that a well managed dairy will pay; that his cows will make a fair return by the sale of milk for immediate use in the market; he has learned the value of an acre of land devoted to market-gardening; he finds his orchards a profitable attachment to his farm when properly located and wisely selected; he has ascertained that his hay not only constitutes the foundation of his farming but that it also finds a ready market not far from his door. He combines these crops and for ome these crops and leaves the production of beef, pork, corn and wheat to cheaper land and more propitious soil. The figures I have given prove the wisdom of his course.

The decadence of New England farming therefore means that the farmers of these six States have learned their business and understand what land to occupy and what crops to cultivate and what to abandon and avoid. And while they have left their remote hill-side homes for acres lying near the large towns and cities, they by no no means proclaimed that the earth has ceased to make a liberal return to the industrious and judicious husbandman in New England, or that there is a reward only to those who produce the staples on a wider sphere. The traveller through New England is always struck with the air of thrift and comfort he finds in the farm houses that line along the highways. Well-tilled fields, well-ordered buildings, well-arranged fences, and well-to-do people, greet him on every hand. Wealth is not massed in farms in secluded places; but these are few in the populous counties, and they indicate rather the judgment of those who left them for more genial spots, than the decay of that industry to which they were once devoted. The agriculture of New England has gathered around the thriving, populous and wealthy manufacturing communities which are found at every waterfall, and whose industry invigorates all co-ordinate occupations, builds up schools and colleges and churches, and gives life to an active, cultivated, prosperous people. He who has seen this would be slow to believe that the occupants of this soil are doomed to a hard and unprofitable toil, or that the evidences of prosperity around him are superficial and illusory. A careful study of the facts and figures will remove all doubts, and satisfy him that the thrift is real, and that the agriculture of New England rests on a substantial and profitable foundation.

The agricultural system which has succeeded in maintaining the rural prosperity of New England is necessarily exact and methodical, and consists in the most skillful application of the best rules of farming. The wholesale method of new and fertile lands in sparsely settled regions cannot succeed here. In the preparation of soil, the application of fertilizers, the cultivation of the crops which must be appropriately chosen, the selection and care of animals, the New England farmer is obliged to exercise the highest care and judgment and skill.

**The Ancient Farmers.**

An ancient writer on agriculture, after having told us that Mago, the famous Carthaginian general, and Columella the Roman, and Democritus, and Socraticus and Zenophan and Aristotle among the Greeks, and Stefano and Tarulio among the Italians, and Fitz Herbert and Arthur Young among the English all wrote valuable treatises on agriculture, says:—

"The Flemings were more attentive to the practice of husbandry than the publishing of books on the subject; their intention being doubtless to carry on a private lucrative trade without instructing their neighbors in their modes of cultivation. Hence it happened that whoever was desirous of copying their method of agriculture was obliged to travel into their country and make his remarks on the spot. The principal idea of husbandry which was indeed just enough, consisted in making a farm resemble a garden as much as possible. The adoption of such an excellent

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE, - - BOSTON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1886.

Buttercup, Golden Wonder, Fannie, and Pansy.

L J Bickford, Dixmont, bull Jumbo, 4 yrs; do St. Elmo, 1 yr; 1 heifer.

Joseph Percival, Waterville, cows Cream Lady 3rd, 7 yrs; Pansy, 2 yrs; Cream Lady 6th, 1 yr.

GRADES OR CROSS BREEDS.

B P Parker, Athens, 1 pair, 2 yrs 2 mos; 1 do, 3 yrs.

N P Haskell, Orono, 2 herds of 5 cows; 2 yearlings; 1 heifer calf.

John Lee, Bangor, cow Lady, 3 yrs, and calf.

F Hilton, Anson, 1 cow, 7 yrs; 1 do, 6 yrs.

J M Hilton, Anson, 1 cow, 3 yrs.

D Brown, Richmond, heifer Gipsey Queen, 1 yr.

J M Cutts, East North Portland, bull Duke of Somerset, 2 yrs; 2 cows, 7 yrs: 1 heifer, 2 yrs.

H Luce, Bangor, 1 heifer, 2 yrs; 1 do, 1 yr; 2 heifer calves.

O Holway, Waterville, 1 cow, 7 yrs.

P M Harwood, Barre, 1 cow, 3 yrs; 1 heifer calf, 6 mos.

C H Hayes & Son, Portsmouth, 1 cow Maid of Yarmouth, 1 yr 8 mos.

Henry Boardman, Bangor, cow Beauty, 3 yrs; do Maude, 8 yrs; 4 calves, 6 to 12 mos.

M W Horton, N. N. Portland, 1 cow, 6 yrs; heifer Maine Girl, 1 yr 5 mos; bull calf 7 mos.

G M Fogg, Bangor, cow Spot, 5 yrs; do Jersey Queen, 3 yrs; calf Buttercup, 6 mos.

TOWN TEAMS.

E A Bailey, Winthrop, Town of Winthrop.

B J P Weston, Madison, Town of Madison.

Burleigh and Bodwell, Vassalboro', Town of Vassalboro'.

WORKING OXEN AND STEERS.

J H Jordan, Sabottus, one yoke, 6 yrs.

C E Peaslee, Alna, one yoke, 4 yrs; one do over 4; one do 3 yrs.

R R Smart, Lewiston, one yoke, 6 yrs.

G W Clark, Unity, two yoke, 3 yrs.

B J Warren, Eddington, one yoke.

E Hunnewell, Saccarappa, one yoke, 2 yrs.

A W Brackett, Pittsfield, steers, 3 yrs; one do, 1 yr; one pair calves, 7 1-2 mos.

J N Hilton, Anson, one pair steers, 2 yrs.

D Brown, Richmond, one pair oxen, 4 yrs; 1 do steers, 2 yrs.

C M Hilton, Anson, one pair steers, 2 yrs.

J M Cutts, E N Portland, 2 pairs steer calves, 5 mos.

B P J Weston, Madison, 2 pairs oxen over 6 yrs; 1 pair steers, 3 yrs.

W P Haskell, Gray, 1 pair oxen.

J G Fish, Oakland, 1 pair oxen, 6 yrs; 1 do, 7 yrs; 1 do steers, 1 yr.

C A Atkinson, South Norridgewalk, 1 pair oxen; 1 do, steers.

Burleigh & Bodwell, Vassalboro', 2 yoke, 4 yrs; 2 do, 3 yrs; 2 do, 2 yrs; 1 do, 1 yr.

J M Wing & Son, Wayne, 1 pair oxen, 5 yrs.

Columbus Hilton, E N Portland, 1 yoke, 4 yrs.

TRAINED STEERS.

E A Bailey, Winthrop, 1 pair, 2 yrs.

C K Page, East Livermore, 1 pair calves, 5 mos.

G M Lane, Kent's Hill, 1 pair steers, 3 yrs.

D Brown, Richmond, 1 pair steers, 2 yrs; 1 do, 1 yr.

B J P Weston, Madison, 1 pair steers.

Burleigh & Bodwell, Vassalboro', 1 pair steers, 1 yr.

MATCHED OXEN.

G M Clark, Unity, 1 yoke, 3 years.

B J Warren, Eddington, 1 yoke.

E A Bailey, Winthrop, 4 yoke, 3 yrs and over; 3 do, (regardless of weight); 2 do, 4 yrs and over; 3 do, 5 yrs and over.

C K Page, East Livermore, 1 pair calves, 5 months.

G M Lane, Kent's Hill, 1 pair steers, 2 yrs.

B P Parker, Athens, 1 pair steers, 2 yrs; 1 do, 3 yrs.

J G Fish, Oakland, 1 pair, 7 ft 6 in; 1 do under 7 ft.

Amos Kendall, Jackson, 1 pair.

SHEEP.

COTSWOLD.

W Arey, West Hampden, 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 3 lambs.

R G Hill, Elmore, Vt., 2 rams, 2 yrs; 2 do, 1 yr; 3 ram lambs; 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs.

C Kenniston, Simpson's Corners, 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 1 buck, 2 yrs.

LINCOLN.

J G Reynolds, South Brooks, 2 bucks, 2 yrs; 1 do, 1 yr.

OXFORD DOWNS.

C A Brackett, Gorham, rams Ransom's Z, 5 yrs; Pride of Farm, 1 yr; 3 buck lambs, 5 mos; 3 yrs, 2 yrs and over; 3 do, 1 yr and over; 3 ewe lambs, 4 mos.

L Libby, Saccarappa, 1 buck, 2 yrs; 1 do, 1 yr; 3 buck lambs, 5 mos; 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs, 4 mos.

M E Bartlett, East Dixmont, 1 buck, 1 yr; 3 buck lambs, 4 mos; 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs, 4 mos.

SOUTHDOWNS.

N R Boutelle, Waterville, ram Bismarck, 3 yrs; do Force, 2 yrs; 3 rams, 1 yr; 6 ram lambs, 5 mos; 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 6 ewe lambs, 5 mos.

E M Shaw, Victoria's Corner, N. B., 1 buck, 4 yrs; 3 buck lambs; 6 ewes; 3 ewe lambs.

M Shaw, Hartland, 1 buck, 3 yrs; 2 do, 2 ewe lambs.

H Luce, Bangor, 3 ewes, 2 yrs and over; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs; 2 bucks, 2 yrs and over; 2 do, 1 yr; 3 buck lambs.

MERINOS.

C W Hilton, Starks, bucks Grover, 3 yrs; Billy, 2 yrs; Panker, 1 yr; 3 buck lambs, 5 mos; 2 pens ewes, 2 yrs; 3 do do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs.

B Hilton, North Anson, 1 buck, 2 yrs and over; 1 do, 1 yr; 3 ewes, 3 and over; 6 do, 1 yr and over; 6 ewe lambs; 3 buck lambs.

C Hilton, E. N. Portland, 2 ewes, 3 yrs; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ram lambs; 3 ewe lambs.

SHROPSHIRE.

J W Carter, Hollowell, buck Jack, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs.

N P Haskell, Orono, 1 buck, 1 yr.

W Arey, West Hampden, 1 buck, 1 yr.

R O Jones, Winslow, bucks Jim, 3 yrs; Logan, 2 yrs.

J Ferguson, Charlestown, 1 buck, 1 yr; 6 ewes, 2 yrs; 6 do, 1 yr.

E H Brown, Charlestown, 1 buck, 2 yrs.

J M Cutts, E. N. Portland, 6 ewe lambs, 5 mos.

Manson & Abbott, Vassalboro', bucks William 1st, 4 yrs; do William 2nd, 4 yrs; 3 ewes, 2 yrs; 3 do, 1 yr; 3 ewe lambs, 4 mos; pen buck lambs, 4 mos; 1 buck lamb, 1-2 mos.

SWINE.

N P Haskell, Orono, Chester white boar, 3 yrs.

J J McKenney, Auburn, 1 boar 1 yr 6 mos; 1 do, 2 yrs; 3 ewes, 3 mos.

H H Knowlton, Simpson's Corners, 1 boar, 1 yr; 2 boar pigs, 1 yr: 2 sows, 18 mos, with litters; 2 sows; 1 sow; 1 pen hogs.

Daniel Brown, Richmond, 2 boar pigs; Henry and James, 16 weeks; 1 sow, Belle, 16 weeks.

HORSES.

**Stallions for Stock Purposes.**

R Fitzsimmons, Bangor, Dean Swift, 14 yrs.

E L Norcross, Manchester, Fearnaught, Jr, 21 years.

E J Lawrence, Somerset Mills, Dr. Franklin.

**Stallions for Raising Gentlemen's Driving Horses.**

C W Pitts, Ross Corner, Me, Walter S, 7 yrs

W B Ferguson, Bangor, Patchen Boy, 9 yrs.

L Hayford, Belfast, Hambletonian Chief, 19 years.

Geo M Luce, Presque Isle, Indus, 6 yrs.

J Foster, Oldtown, Sir Wm Allison, 8 yrs.

H K Fletcher, East Jackson, Gen Grant, 5 yrs.

E T Monroe, Foxcroft, Fred Lothair.

B N Shaw, Hartland, Duke.

H E Haley, Monroe, Constitution, 12 yrs

A L Silpp, Truro, N S, Messenger Clay.

James A McMillan, Charlottetown, P E I, Island King, 6 yrs.

**Trotting Stock Stallions.**

N W Goodrich, Hartland, Morrill Withers, 2 years.

G R Ellis, Belfast, Pet's Chief, 1 yr.

Loretto Hayford, Belfast, Ben Bolt.

F E Moore, Hallowell, Creedmore, 15 mos.

S Nasburn, Argyle, Duke of Argyle, 1 yr.

G Sweetser, Hampden, Watchman, 3 yrs.

E S Foster & Son, Canaan, Dick Lightheart, 3 years.

G L Harmon, Machias, Queen of the Island, 7 yrs, and colt.

W B Ellis, Brooks, mare and foal; pair draft mares, 2 yrs.

H M Low, Fairfield, mare and foal, 9 yrs.

J M Hilton, Anson, mare and foal 9 yrs; do, 9 yrs; 3 more, 8, 2 and 1 yr; filly, 3 mos.

C B Gilman, Waterville, mare, 8 yrs, with foal.

G H Raymond, Saccarappa, mare, 10 yrs, with foal.

C M Hilton, Anson, mare, 5 yrs, with foal.

Manasr, Bradbury & Page, Houlton, 2 mares, 4 and 3 yrs.

T Daggett, Foxcroft, 2 mares, 3 yrs.

M Brennan, Fredericton, Feg Angus, 2 yrs.

GOLDINGS.

N Gould, Oldtown, Fred, 4 yrs.

W O King, Calais, Rodamont, 3 yrs.

W L Eaton, Milltown, Darkmont, 3 yrs.

E J Lawrence, Somerset Mills, Canaan, 3 yrs.

Goodridge & Parker, Canaan, Leo, 3 yrs; George F., 2 yrs.

R Fitzsimmons, New London, Conn., 1 gelding, 3 yrs.

FILLIES.

J B Twaddle, Minnie Boone, 3 yrs.

A W Brackett, Pittsfield, Harebell, 3 yrs.

J B Low, Fairfield, Ripple, 2 yrs.

A Weymouth, Clinton, Daisy, 4 yrs.

E J Lawrence, Somerset Mills, Cad Miller, 3 yrs.

C H Nelson, Waterville, Aubine, 4 yrs; June, 2 yrs.

G M Fogg, Veazie, 1 filly, 2 yrs.

B & F H Briggs, Auburn, Sadie L., 3 yrs.

A L Slipp, Truro, 1 filly, 4 years.

J H Kehoe, Milltown, Maud F., 4 yrs.

C E Grosvenor, Canterbury, N.H., Gipsey.

TRAINED COLTS.

W B Ellis, Brooks, 1 colt.

**Matched Driving Horses.**

J F Parsons, Charlestown, P E I, Topsy and Mountain Girl.

G W Sullivan, Bangor, 1 pair.

J P Bass, Bangor, 1 pair.

J Berryman, St John, N B, 1 pair.

**Draft Horses.**

M Condon, Bangor, 2 pairs, 8 and 9, and 4 and 5 years.

**Running Horses.**

A M Savage, Portland, mare Asher L.

A L Slipp, Truro, mare, 5 yrs.

E J Gross, mare Genesta; gelden Golden Maxim.

J H Spencer, Winslow, horse.

A J Mudgett, East Jackson, gelding Watab.

A H Buck, Orland, mare Abbie B, 5 yrs.

E Fitzwilliams, Bangor, stallion Island Chief

J Q Lambert, Dover, Maggie Mitchell.

J B McAloon, Portland, gelding Albion Boy, 6 years.

J D Stratford, St John, mare Harriet; stallion Lord Whaletrue.

P A Martin, Milltown, Lady Hall.

W S Easton, Millbrook, gelding Darkmont.

G B Inches, Boston, Binnacle.

T McAloon, Bangor, mare Lou S, 7 yrs.

C H Nelson, Waterville, gelding June.

W Parsons, Halifax, stallion Emissary.

A L Slipp, Truro, one mare, 4 yrs.

J T Winans, Truro, geilding Jack All Right.

John P Gibson, Bangor, gelding Duplicate, 6 years.

J Keho, Milltown, mare Maud F, 4 yrs.]

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIONS.

**Grains and Seeds.**

C E Grosvenor, Canterbury, N B, trace 12-row corn.

**Vegetables.**

J Bickford, Carmel, turnip blood beets, early horn carrots, W E beans, oats, barley, rye, buckwheat, field beans.

C E Grosvenor, Canterbury, turnip blood beets, early cabbage, intermediate carrots, celery, Beauty of Hebron potatoes.

O M Bickford, South Newburg, Hubbard squash, Boston Marrow squash, trace pop corn.

W P Woodworth, Arnold, Early Rose, Beauty of Hebron, Clark's No. 1, Early Vermont, Burbank and Snowflake potatoes; silver hull wheat, welcome oats.

DAIRY.

**Cheese.**

F. Barnes, Houlton.

**Butter.**

N P Haskell, Orono, dairy butter, in prints.

H C Mayo, Hampden, do.

C A Garland, Bangor, do.

Mrs H A Greely, Bangor, do.

Mrs M L Robbins, Winthrop, do.

Miss S Maggie Robbins, do do.

Miss Olive L Robbins, do do.

DAIRY STOCK.

N P Haskell, Orono, best milch cow; do butter cow.

O Gardiner, Rockland, best butter cow.

O C Holway, Waterville, best butter cow, 7 yrs.

J P Dunn, Bangor, best milch cow, 2 yrs.

M W Horton, N N Portland, best milch cow, 3 yrs.

FAT CATTLE AND SHEEP.

C A Brackett, Gorham, ewes and lambs.

N R Boutelle, Waterville do do do.

C W Hilton, Stark, wethers, lambs and ewes.

B P Parker, Athens, cattle.

G W Clark, Unity, 1 fat animal and pair

E A Bailey, Winthrop, 8 prs oxen, 6 prs steers.

R O Jones, Winslow, 3 ewes, 3 ewe lambs.

E Hunnewell, Saccarappa, 1 pr, 3 single animal.

A J Kenniston, Simpson's Corner, 3 ewes, 3 ewe lambs.

C K Page, E Livermore, pr calves, single calf.

J F Carvill, Lewiston, fat calf and heifer calf.

F M Norton, Farmington, pr oxen.

B P Parker, Athens, do do.

H Hilton, N Anson, heifer calf, steer, 6 Wethers, 6 lambs, 6 ewes.

**Merinos.**

Six ewes, 6 wethers, 3 wether lambs 3 ewe lambs.

F Hilton, Anson, 6 Sheep, pr calves, do steers, 2 single steers.

J M Hilton, Anson, 2 single steers, pr calves.

L Libby, Saccarappa, pen lambs, 3 pens ewes.

D L Brown, Richmond, pr calves.

C M Hilton, Anson, 1 pr steers.

J M Cutts, E N Portland, 2 prs calves, 1 heifer, 6 ewe lambs, 9 wether lambs.

H Lane, Bangor, 3 ewes, 3 lambs.

W P Haskell, Gray, pair oxen.

M E Bartlett, East Dixmont, 9 ewes.

Burleigh & Bodwell, Vassalboro', 8 pairs oxen; 10 single oxen; 8 cows, 2 calves.

Manson & Abbott, Vassalboro', 3 pens sheep and lambs.

A B Jennings, Farmington, pair calves.

A K Perkins, Skowhegan, pair calves.

C Hilton, E N Por land, wethers and lambs.

J W Horton, N W Portland, 1 heifer, 1 bull calf.

**Home Made Bread.**

Mrs M L Robbins, Winthrop, Graham loaf.

Miss S Maggie Robbins, Winthrop, 9 yrs old, Graham and brown bread.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS ETC.

A A Mitchell, Portland, assortment of mowers, threshers, cultivators, hay tedders, horse pitchforks, etc.

Ames Plow Co, Boston, 24 pieces.

E L Simmons, Boston, 4 pieces.

Wasburn Peabody, cant dog jam breaker.

Daniel T Kelley, Portland, 17 pieces agricultural implements

J Frank Davis, Portland, 16 pieces.

G W Wiggin, Levant, mowing machine, one horse; do, two-horse.

E G York & Co, Bangor, mowing machine, one-horse; do, two-horse.

POULTRY, ETC.

J H Felker, Hermon, 3 pairs Dominique, single comb; pair Black Leghorn, single comb; 3 pairs White Leghorn, single comb; 3 pairs Polish; 1 pair Rumpless; Pekin ducks and ducklings, single comb white Leghorns, Brown do, Rose-comb do

C A Arnold, Arnold, Me, large collection of fowls, of various breeds, including ducks and geese.

A G Kent, Brewer Village, Plymouth Rock, Bramah and Leghorn fowls.

J S Baker, Bangor, 2 pairs Wyandottes.

A J Kenniston, Simpson's Corner, large collection of geese, ducks, turkeys, and many varieties of fowls.

F Moran, Bangor, 3 pairs B R Game.

E A Allen, Oldtown, 2 pairs Wyandottes, 3 pairs light Brahmas.

L J Bickford, Dixmont, bronze turkeys, Embden and Toulouse geese, Muscovy ducks, B B E Bantams, Pearl Guineas.

M E Bartlett, East Dixmont, Spanish, Leghorn and Wyandotte fowl and Pekin ducks.

C D Roberts, Dexter, Leghorn fowl and Rowen ducks.

H A Jones, Worcester, Mass., large collection of fancy pigeons and several varieties of fowls, ducks and geese.

E C Stevens, Hallowell, Wyandotte, Leghorn, Hamburg, Plymouth Rock and Dorking fowls

J T Denfson, Bangor, 5 pairs Brown Leghorns.

W P Woodworth, Arnold, Leghorns (different varieties), Game bantams, Hamburgs, Plymouth Rocks, black Russians, black Sumatra, Buff Polish, Bronze and Brown turkeys and Rowen ducks.

G M Twitchell, Resdfield, Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes.

F E Moore, Hallowell, Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks.

C A Whitcomb, Simpson's Corner, Cochins, Black Javas, B B R G bantams, Light Brahmas.

S S Hamburgs, R C Brown Leghorns, W B Polish, G B do, Pekin ducks, Embden geese.

J Bickford, Carmel, W F B Spanish, single-comb white Leghorns, do brown do, Plymouth Rocks, turkeys, Embden geese.

A P Chapman, South Orrington, pair Light Brahmas.

C A Ballou, Worcester, dark and light Brahmas.

H A Frink, Bucksport, pair light Brahmas, do Plymouth Rocks.

J H Merrow, South Smithfield, bronze, black, white or buff turkeys, 4 pairs Narragansetts.

L M Berry, Winthrop, Wyandottes, Plymouth Rocks and black Cochins.

J F Frost, Monmouth, Ply mouth Rocks.

A C Millett, Lincoln, light Brahmas, single-comb white Leghorns and Wyandottes

J P Kenniston, Simpson's corner, collection of different varieties of fowl, turkeys, geese and ducks.

Tukey & Milliken, Bangor, 3 prs English rabbits.

FRUIT.

[Residence Bangor, unless otherwise indicated.]

A W King, Charleston, 19 varieties of apples.

Mrs C H Forbes, dish of apples.

Daniel Farrell, dish of pears.

H H Lane, 5 varieties of apples.

Lewis I Kittredge, 12 do.

C H Morrison, 7 do.

R B Williams, Brewer, specimens of apples and plums.

Lewis I Kittredge, dish Northern Sweet.

Mrs H H Lane, apples and crab apples.

Mrs A B Strattard, Monroe, 8 varieties of apples; Clapp's Favorite pear.

Geo W Merrill, Clapp's Favorite and Belle Lucrative pears.

A J Ham, Red Astrachan.

O L Larrabee, W Levant, 10 varieties of apples.

Geo W Snow, Duchess of Oldenburg.

L M Berry, Winthrop, 25 varieties of apples; 4 do of pear.

E S Hunting, E Corinth, 2 varieties of apples; 1 do of crab apples.

L M Berry, Winthrop, 38 varieties of apples.

H J Harriman, Buxport, green grape plums.

James Dunning, 2 varieties of apples; 4 do of plums; 2 of currants.

Mark A C Peters, Flemish Beauty pears; 4 varieties of apples.

Thos S Moore, 3 varieties of apples; Flemish Beauty pears.

J Henry Moore, Winthrop, Clapp's Favorite pears.

Willis Veazie, 3 varieties of apples; crab apples; 3 varieties of pears.

Wilder Veazie, Roxbury, Russetts and Clapp's Favorite pear.

James Bickford, Carmel, Baldwin apples and crab apples.

D P True, Lood's Centre, Me., 35 varieties of apples; crab apples; 16 do of pears; 2 do of grapes; 9 do of plums.

A H Farrington, Holden, 15 varieties of apples; 4 do of pears.

Miss Harriet H Kendrick, Duchess of Oldenburg apples; Clapp's Favorite.

Augustus Chapin, Orrington, cultivated cranberries; 9 varieties of apples.

R H Brackett, Lemington, plums.

Mrs M L Robbins, Winthrop, 7 varieties of apples.

R R Wiggin, 2 varieties of apples.

Parker P Burleigh, Linneus, Me., apples.

FLOWERS.

[Residence Bangor, unless otherwise indicated.]

Mrs M L Croxford, Carmel, basket of wild flowers; exhibit of dried grasses.

Lillie B Raynes, specimen plant foliage begonia.

Mrs Wm Crocker, specimen plant foliage begonia.

Mrs R T Jones, specimen plant fuschia.

Mrs R B Dunning, specimen plant double geranium.

Mrs Geo F Archer, Amherst, cut flowers.

Mrs J A Lewis, No Bangor, cactus.

C Y Eaton, floral chest table decoration; everlasting flowers.

Mrs C C Barrett, Brewer, display of cut flowers; exhibit of dahlias, China pinks, asters, pansies, zinnias, phlox drummondi, stocks, balsams, erysanthemums, petunias, gladioli, floral pillow, do design, do wreath, do dinner table decorations, basket wild flowers, everlasting flowers, fancy basket of flowers.

Mrs C H Morrison, pansies, stocks, verbenas, 10 varieties of asters, phlox drummondi, petunias, China pinks.

Mrs John Savage, flower wreath, dried grasses.

Mrs F A Cary, Brewer, 100 varieties of pansies.

Miss Lillie E Hunting, E Corinth, basket of wild flowers; everlasting flowers.

Miss Mary A Paine, flowering wax begonia and foliage begonia.

Mrs C C Barrett, Brewer, China pinks and verbenas.

Mrs Wm Crocker, flowering begonia.

Mrs W S Heller, Japan lilies and fuschias.

Mrs H M Farrington, Brewer, petunias and parlor bouquet.

Mrs Geo H Hopkins, cut flowers and fancy basket flowers.

Mrs S F Jones, dish cut flowers.

Mrs Marshall J Egery, exhibition of roses.

Miss Mary Forrest, balsams and zinnias.

Miss Olive I Hasty, double geranium.

Mrs E P Fairbanks, everlasting flowers and asters.

Miss Sadie Moor, sweet peas.

Mrs John Savage, balsam.

Mrs Paul D Hariborn, roses.

Miss E W Eaton, geraniums.

S B Farrington, Brewer, fuschias, carnations, stocks and petunias, floral dinner table decoration and cut flowers.

Miss Annie L Chapin, Orrington, basket of wild flowers.

Miss Mary Hopkins, nasturtiums.

Mrs J H Crocker, dried grasses.

Miss Josie Webb, pansies.

Mrs P C Baker, Orrington, verbenas ahd asters.

Miss Josie Wiggin, cut flowers and stocks.

Mrs W S Whitman, gladioli, Japan lilies, nasturtiums Marshal P Wilder rose, dinner table decoration, pair parlor bouquets.

F H Morse, Buxport, pair hand boquets, floral pillow and floral design.

Miss M E Chapin, Orrington, everlastings, asters, stocks and erysanthemums.

Mrs Augustus Chapin, Orrington, fancy basket of flowers.

David B Woodbary, Paris, pansies.

*[To be continued in next week's Ploughman.]*

# The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 4, 1886.

☞ *Persons desiring a change in the address of their paper must state where the paper has been sent as well as the new direction.*

☞ *A phonographic report of the entire proceedings of the Great New England Fair, at Bangor, in continuation of this week's report, with the Official List of Premiums awarded, will appear in next week's issue of the Ploughman.*

To no one man more than to Hon. J. B. Bass belongs the credit of the great agricultural exposition which is going on at Bangor this week, and to no one are President Loring, Secretary Needham, Treasurer Riddle and other executive officers of the New England Agricultural Society under greater obligations. It was his individual energy, supported with equal liberality of effort and means, that brought the young and vigorous Eastern Maine State Association into being, and as its President he spares neither thought nor exertion in promoting its success. It was he who conceived the happy scheme of uniting the annual fair of the New England Agricultural Society with that of the Eastern Maine Association, and for him to conceive and execute was one and the same thing. By this consolidation of forces he has secured two successive exhibitions for Bangor and Eastern Maine that take rank instantly among the largest, most comprehensive, and most brilliant of any agricultural fairs yet held in the country. While no one would be less desirous of making claim to large and valuable service than Mr. Bass himself, it belongs to the occasion to put that undeniable service on open record, as we are happy to do now, if not as some sort of acknowledgment of its worth, yet as a stimulation to others to emulate so good an example in the work of advancing the interests and the character of agriculture.

## THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND FAIR.

The report from the great agricultural exhibition at Bangor is given in other columns of the present issue of the *Ploughman* from its opening day up to the time of going to press The opening day was a good one, though an uncomfortably close one for the last day of summer. Crowds of people wended their way to the Park during the whole of Monday, giving the streets of Bangor an unusually lively appearance, and serving as the prophesy of a very large attendance. The programme laid down for the four days of the Fair was crowded with items, including in addition to the regular exhibition a variety of sports, base-ball games, horse-trotting and running, ploughing matches, balloon ascensions, speaking, and so forth, so that the time could not but be all occupied. The number of animals of all kinds that were assembled on Monday morning was unprecedented, and furnished a sure indication of a magnificent show. The stalls for the horses were all filled, making it a serious question how the later comers were to be accommodated. Everything about the grounds showed the studious care that had been taken by the managers of both the Eastern Maine and the New England Societies.

The list of entries in the trotting department was the largest and finest ever made up at any agricultural meeting in New England, if indeed it was ever exceeded in the country, and their quality was universally pronounced superb. Every State in New England was handsomely represented, and a generous supplementary show was made from the Provinces. The lovers of fine horses and good trotting felt that they had come to the right place to enjoy a great and rare exhibition. In the horse department alone were entered for premiums two hundred and fifty-five animals, without counting those entered for speed contests, which numbered two hundred and eleven, making a grand total of four hundred and sixty-six animals in this department alone. The herds of cattle were numerous and of the choicest, coming from the most noted yards in all New England. Lovers of fine stock were gratified beyond even their highest expectation. The report elsewhere details the character of the different herds, and gives an intelligible description of their qualities and points, as well as the names of their owners. It would be invidious to particularize any breed or specimen, in an assemblage of animals whose repute is spread all over this country and England.

Such a collection of cattle, horses, sheep, swine, poultry, agricultural implements and machinery, and miscellaneous articles would have been confusing but for the managing care that so soon reduced all to order and assigned each to its place. Norombaga Hall was a museum, containing a collection of articles, useful and ornamental, that produced a bewildering charm. The roads leading to the Park were in splendid condition and kept so throughout, greatly adding to the public comfort and enjoyment. Each day was a special day, and could have been called a separate Fair of itself. The entertainments so liberally provided were skillfully adjusted to the different days, and altogether made up a most attractive list. But the central feature of this great Fair was the cattle, which for quality, variety, and number were unsurpassed in any previous assemblage of the live products of the farm. These are the promise and potency of successful farming in New England, and are an announcement of the radical change which is taking place in farm management and economy in this favorite section of the country.

## PRESIDENT LORING'S ADDRESS.

The address of Hon. George B. Loring at the opening of the Bangor Fair, elsewhere given in full text, will be read with universal interest and instruction. With the address before one, it is needless to abstract any of its points or features. Nor is it necessary to speak of its leading characteristics to those who are familiar with his method of discussing the larger topics of agriculture. It is a theme to which he has devoted the study of years and upon which few men are so well qualified to descant for the pleasure and profit of others. It will especially impress its readers with the overwhelming importance of agriculture in any attempted estimate of the productive wealth of the country, and satisfy them that it is a factor in the national existance that governs and controls all the rest. We are an agricultural country before all things. We may rely on the yearly products of the soil for that substance which sustains and enriches us, and enables us to hold a place in the world of living forces of which we cannot be dispossessed.

We cannot refrain, however, from making particular reference to that portion of President Loring's address which treats of the alleged decay of farming in New England—a subject of increasing interest as the population of this section continues to increase. All persons will testify their gratification with both his statements and his conclusions on this matter, presenting it as they do in a clear light, and distributing the opinions in relation to it in their appropriate places. The felicitous quotation he makes in the body of his thoughtful discourse contains an unanswerable argument for thorough farming, and supplies a most effective illustration. And he rightly pointed to what was to be seen by his hearers on every hand as the most convincing proof of the possibilities of New England in agriculture. The accustomings lent force to his arguments and clothed his statements with eloquence. Due credit is given in the address to the several agents and managers whose laborious and enthusiastic co-operation made the Fair at Bangor during the week such a splendid success and inspired the farming interest of this whole section with new and worthy purposes for the future.

## THE WEATHER.

It may be remarked that the lengthening series of Fairs annually held by the New England Agricultural Society seems to have been almost exceptionally favored with propitious weather, the exceptions referring to its exhibitions in 1868 and 1869 at New Haven and Portland. The opening day at Bangor ended in a heavy rain, but the sun rose clear on the second morning and ushered in a day whose atmospheric conditions were as nearly perfect as it is possible to imagine. The week is a fine one for an outdoor exhibition, and very fortunately, too, in view of the grand scale on which the present one is given. Nothing to equal it in scope and numerical strength was ever witnessed in this section of the country. The visiting multitude has been fairly enthusiastic in its admiration. To the assiduity and skill of the management, supported as it has been by the enterprising co-operation of the farmers of New England and the Provinces, is due the signal triumph of this truly great agricultural exhibition. With this noteworthy event it may be said that the farming interests of this section will visibly receive an impulse that promises the most substantial results, not only to farmers themselves but to the entire community.

## WORCESTER.

Worcester showed the right spirit, and in generous measure, in co-operating with Bangor to make the New England Fair the triumphant exhibition it was. The Worcester County Agricultural Society was present in force, led by its worthy President, ex-Mayor C. B. Pratt, who entered into the work with all the enthusiasm and earnestness manifested during the successive years when the fair of the New England Society was held at Worcester. It is especially satisfactory to note such a feeling of cordiality on the part of the different localities of this section in furthering a great common purpose, when a display of different feelings might spoil all. Not only Bangor and Eastern Maine, but the other cities and sections of New England, will remember this generously hearty action of Worcester to her credit. Her future requests are much more likely to be forestalled than discussed in consequence.

The admirable arrangements for the comfort and accomodation of the press at Bangor during the week were fully recognized by the large representation it sent there for the purpose of reporting the progress of the Fair. The rank due to the agricultural vocation is seen to be allowed when the people of the country sees the importance of presenting its public proceedings as a part of the actual life and progress of the times.

The exhibition of agricultural implement, and machinery at Bangor was fit for a special occasion, and did more than almost anything else to show how large and sure crops, with fine stock of all kinds, are made possible to the farmer. It is by the use of labor-saving inventions that law is renovated and made to yield large and profitable products. The best agricultural warehouses in this section of the country were represented by a display of machinery and implements of every variety and value that almost converted visitors who were not land owners to a desire to become farmers orthwith.

The Congress of noble horses, of the purest strains of blood, that absorbed the attention of the public at Bangor this week, was a memorable affair, to be referred to for years to come. They were present in all their glory. None felt prouder than their owners. All had their eloquent champions. The performances of the animals on the racing course made the pulses of those who witnesed them beat in responsive time.

To the managers of the leading railroads of New England both visitors to the great exhibition at Bangor and exhibitors feel an indebtedness for special care and attention which they would be only too glad to express in person. The roads have proved their practical friendship for the farmer, as well as their instinctive alliance with the agricultural interest, by the hearty co-operation offered by them in making the New England Fair the brilliant accomplishment it proved to be.

The enterprise and genuine liberality manifested by the hotels at Bangor in providing prompt and ample accommodations for the coming multitude of visitors to the New England Fair merit special and repeated mention. All guests were made to feel at home on their arrival, and the entertainment extended to them was but a continuous round of glad hospitality. Thousands of people will long remember their experience at Bangor in this respect with a satisfaction and pleasure which it is not easy to describe.

Large numbers of visitors to Bangor this week availed themselves of the favorable opportunity offered for making excursions to Bar Harbor, Aroostook, and the line of cities within reach of Bangor by boat and rail. The week has been improved up to the last day and hour by this class of visitors.

## PARNELL'S SPEECH.

The speech of Mr. Parnell in the House of Commons was hardly less effective in its way than Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet has been, with its added postscript; and the case is now so clearly stated and is so plainly in the hands of the people of England that it will be quite as difficult to dodge it as to confuse it, and it must go on to its final settlement without any serious obstruction. It becomes perfectly plain, from the speech of Parnell, that all prospects of an arrangement between the Tories and the Nationalists are out of the question, and that, if the present Tory government proceeds to carry out its avowed purposes, there will be such serious and general trouble in Ireland as has not been realized in many a year. Evictions will inevitably be followed by retaliations, and then will come coercion by the government in its worst form. Mr. Gladstone, according to his pamphlet, cuts loose from his former land-purchase scheme, thus leaving the landlords to their fate. In taking this step he is vindicated by the adverse vote of the landlord class, who deliberately witheld their support from him in the last election. The new party in power, speaking through Lord Randolph Churchill, while offering to advance money to the Irish tenant as a loan, refuses to concede to him the authority to legislate for his local government. This kind of a proposition Mr. Parnell refuses to accept.

Thus is the new government made to see that it has got to concede local government or it can grant nothing. Mr. Parnell has plainly told it so. And Mr. Gladstone comes forward at the critical moment to throw over all his former prepositions for land purchase and announce his adherence to home rule alone. The issue is thus marvellously simplified at the outset. But Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain, both professed Liberals, have hitherto opposed the land purchase proposition as a partial payment of Ireland's dues. They denounced it when it was brought forward by Mr. Gladstone as a part of his ministerial measure, and they must none the less oppose it now, when Lord Randolph Churchill proposes it as the best he can do. There is really no chance for a reconciliation of the Nationalists and the Tories. Mr. Parnell, as the recognized head of the latter, would infinitely prefer the open hostility of the Tories to any kind of an alliance with them. He rejects their proffered gifts, and despises their hollow threats. He shows his perfect confidence in the cause he is advocating and leading with such consummate skill and ability, and he knows full well that he can afford to wait for time and events to bear him out in the soundness of his purposes. If greater trouble ensues in Ireland now, he knows it will be easy to fix the responsibility.

## THE EARTHQUAKE SHOCK.

The shock of an earthquake that lasted for about twenty seconds was felt just before ten o'clock on Tuesday evening, extending all over the country. It may be said to have signalized the departure of summer. Here in Boston buildings were shaken, exciting general wonder and some consternation. The experience was that of a rocking motion. It was felt more noticeably in the Appalachian region. In the Virginia prison at Richmond the guards became so frightened that they opened the cells and the prisoners became unruly, requiring military assistance to restore order and security. Telegraphic communications with Charleston, S. C., from all points was broken, that locality appearing to be the centre of the disturbance. At Raleigh, N. C., buildings rocked, bells were rung, walls cracked, floors broke loose from their fastenings, and chimneys fell. Three successive shocks were felt at Knoxville, Tenn. Several buildings in Wilmington, N. C., were nearly wrecked. At Augusta and Savannah the commotion was very great. Cincinnati went all but wild with alarm. Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis, and other western cities were well shaken up. At Pittsburg, Penn., dishes were thrown down from their shelves and the people ran out of their houses screaming in affright. New York and Brooklyn felt the motion very sensibly. In fact, it was a monster warning of the insecurity of the earth's crust.

Later intelligence from Charleston, S. C., is of a truly lamentable character. The report is that the city is wrecked, the streets are encumbered with masses of fallen bricks and tangled telegraph and telephone wires, and it was almost impossible to pass from one part of the city to another. The first shock was by far the most severe. Most of the people, with their families, passed the night in the street, which, even the next morning, were crowded with people, afraid to re-enter their houses. More than sixty persons were killed and wounded, chiefly colored. Fires broke out in different parts of the city immediately after the earthquake.

Owing to the interruption of telegraphic communication, but meagre details of the disaster are at hand; but there is reason to believe that the dead are num

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Parties intending to purchase should not fail to examine the imported and thoroughbred stock before purchasing elsewhere, as we have the largest and most valuable collection in the country, and should be investigated. sept-4t



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Entry books just opened. Stalls just erected to accommodate 1,000 head of cattle. Trains of speed daily. Excursion trains for passengers delivered within the grounds by the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. C. W. SMITH, Secretary, 128 North Main St., Providence. dec29



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## READ AND RUN.

— The use of gas-cooking stoves is increasing in Great Britain. Many of the Scottish gas companies now let out the stoves at a cheap rate. Gas-cooked meat is pronounced more juicy and palatable and yet free from those alkaloidal bodies produced during the confined cooking of meat, which are more or less hurtful and even poisonous. A joint cooked in a gas-oven weighs heavier than the same joint cooked in a coal-oven, because the juices are more perfectly preserved in it.

— According to the observations of the Panama Canal Company, there is no difference of moment between the levels of the Atlantic Ocean at Colon and of the Pacific at Panama.

— Prof. Penhallow has drawn the conclusions, from a series of experiments which he has made with the amount of water contained in highly liquified plants in various seasons and under varied conditions of growth, that the hydration of woody plants is not constant for all seasons, and depends upon conditions of growth; that it reaches its maximum in later May or early June, and its minium during January; that it is greatest in the sapwood, and least in the heart-wood; and that the greatest hydration is directly correlated to the most active growth of the plant, while liquification and storage of starch and other products are correlated to diminishing hydration.

— Under the German law of compulsory insurance, considerably more than four million persons had been insured against sickness, at the end of last year.

— In his speech in the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone answered certain sneers by saying that he was delighted at having any share or part whatever in becoming a leader or a follower—he did not care which—in any movement tending to make smooth the path of the people of Ireland and encourage them to hope for a realization of their just rights.

— The immense agricultural advance and wealth of the country is the theme that engages the attention and excites the wonder of all intelligent writers and publicists.

— Well and truly remarks the Boston Pilot, in speaking of the social position of such men as now stand forth disgraced as defaulters that trained heads, polished manners, and accumulated wealth may all be good things, "but they are not the qualities that can make a trustworthy and honorable man, nor a solid and safe community. The cultivation of the mind and senses may lead a man to be shrewd, keen, elegant, courteous; but they never have led and they never will lead, a man or a class to be unselfish, sacrificial, self-denying, humble, and virtuous. The virtues of the intellect are not the virtues of the soul; and the latter are not to be found in grammar or arithmetic."

— There is a story of a bat having lived in the stomach of a woman at Cambridge for seven years, she having swallowed it while drinking water pumped from a well.

— A great many people sincerely condole with Mr. Daniel F. Appleton, of the Appleton farms at Ipswich, in the recent death of his wife. She was a noble woman, full of a generous spirit, and has made the world better for having lived in it.

— The effects of sewage and industrial waste waters on fisheries and fish culture are found to be very damaging.

— Dr. W. J. Graham, of Dakota, who has been pursuing prolonged investigations of the alkali which is more or less abundant on the western plains, states that the basis of the alkali is common salt, derived from a rock-salt formation underlying the region; and by permeation to the surface it there undergoes the chemical reactions which give it its apparent form and composition. He believes that the alkali will afford a valuable and really inexhaustible fertilizing material.

— Persons threatened with melancholia or other form of insanity are advised to avoid long sea journeys.

— The mountains of Japan are bare and the forests burned, just as they are in the eastern part of the Rocky Mountains. Perhaps in fifty years America will have reached the same stage. The United States still possesses the finest forests of the globe, but in the land of haste, hurry, and greed anything which cannot be turned into money at short notice is destroyed.

— It is predicted that aluminum is the coming metal, which is destined to supersede iron. It is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust, and is not exceeded in usefulness. Although it has never been found in a pure state, it is known to exist in nearly two hundred different minerals.

— Comparing President Cleveland with Jefferson in respect to habits and cost of living, a Washington paper says the latter was a poor man all his life, and died in debt, always living up to the top of his income. When he lived in Washington he had the finest turnout to be seen, his tables were furnished with dainty crockery, and he had ten thousand dollars worth of wines in his cellars. He was a high liver in comparison with Cleveland.

— The famous funeral car which bore the body of Abraham Lincoln from Washington to Springfield in 1865, and which was originally a directors' car, is now used to transfer section hands on the Colorado Central Railroad. It originally cost $35,000.

— Anarchist Parsons replies to Master Workman Powderly from his cell in Chicago, in the following language: "The foundation principles of socialism, or anarchy, is the same as that of the Knights of Labor—the abolition of the wage system and the substitution in its stead of the industrial system of universal co-operation, making every capitalist a laborer and every laborer a capitalist, ending forever the conflict of classes and the inevitable antagonism of the wage-slave system."

— The monument erected to the late Senator Anthony of Providence consists of a tall granite boulder, into which a tablet is fastened, the stone being covered with a luxuriant growth of ivy.

— The newly issued letter sheets are indeed a novelty, and there is quite a rush for them. They are very handy things to carry around with one. They have to be sealed three times and somebody therefore calls them Mormon letter sheets.

— The warlike temper of Editor Cutting does not seem to have been tamed very much by his two months 'detention in a Mexican prison. He thinks this country takes interest enough in him to warrant his issuing a manifest to them immediately after his release and return to El Paso, Texas. He calls on the United States to get up and give Mexico the thrashing he says she deserves, if only for her treatment of him.

— One can now ride in the cars from Roxbury Highlands to Charlestown for five cents, or the same distance in coaches for only three cents.

— A Mexican village, on the same plan as the Japanese village recently exhibited in Boston, is to occupy two floors of Horticultural Hall during the month of October. The fine arts of the Mexicans, in which they especially excel, are to be elaborately represented.

— The total eclipse of the sun, which occurred at an early hour last Sunday, long known to astronomers, had a duration of six minutes and thirty-five seconds, which is within about a minute of the greatest duration possible under any conditions.

— It must have seemed like a romance to Prince Alexander to be driven from his throne a Bulgaria, kept a prisoner on board the yacht which bore him away, and after a few days taken back and replaced on his throne in consequence of a counter-revolution.


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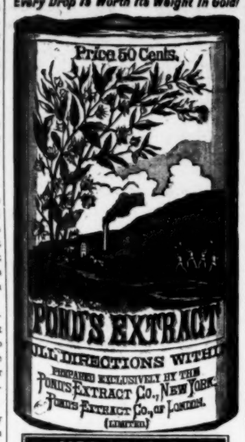
Our trade-mark around every bottle. In no known Every Drop Is Worth Its Weight In Gold!

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Lithographers, Albertype & Photo-Lithographers

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such as are usually retailed at *5 cents per sheet.* As we have but a limited quantity of these, which we are closing, immediate application will be necessary to secure any.

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have enjoyed an enviable reputation for thirty years, due to scientific construction, and the use of only the best materials and workmanship in their manufacture. Our new goods are

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For sale by our agents everywhere. If your local dealer cannot supply you, send to the manufacturers for circular and prices, which we send free.

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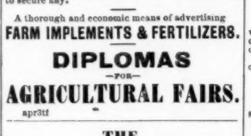

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The most satisfactory machines in the market for Threshing and Cleaning Grain and Sawing Wood.

Acknowledged by all competent judges to be the most thoroughly reliable machines in the market, and durability. Send for 48-page Pamphlet giving full description and terms, FREE. Address

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BUCKEYE FORCE PUMP

Works easy and throws a constant stream. Has Porcelain lined and Brass Cylinders. Is easily set. Is the Cheapest and Best Force Pump in the World for Deep or Shallow Wells. Over 90,000 in use. Never freezes in Winter. Send for Circulars and Prices, giving depth of well. Also manufacturers of the Buckeye Lawn Mower, Buckeye Iron Fence, Buckeye Hose Reel, Lawn Sprinkler, etc., etc.

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feb20 tfeow



THE KEMP Manure Spreader

No farmer can afford to do without the Kemp Spreader, and no farmer will do without it when he knows its benefits.

It transforms the hardest work of the farm into the easiest. It hurries along the work. It makes the manure pile go one-third further, with increased crops. It handles equally well all kinds of manure found on the farm. It will pay for itself in a single year.

Great Improvements since its First Introduction.

DRAFT GREATLY REDUCED.

It is strong, durable, and capable of handling the toughest and heaviest manure without fear of breakage.

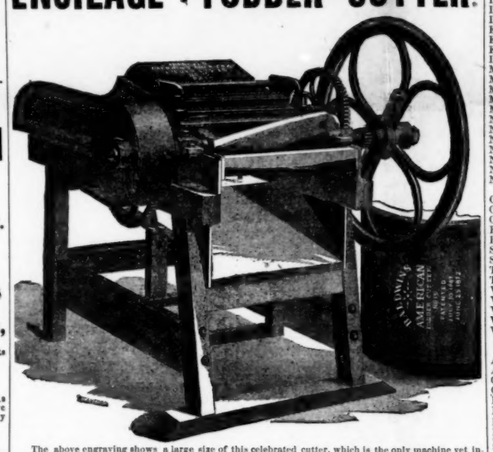
Send for descriptive Circular. Manufactured by

The Richardson Manufacturing Co. WORCESTER, MASS.

aug28-tf



BALDWIN'S IMPROVED ENSILAGE AND FODDER CUTTER.



The above engraving shows a large size of this celebrated cutter, which is the only machine yet invented that has proved perfectly adapted to cutting Green Fodder for Ensilage. Its of rare strength and capacity, thoroughly made in every particular, and is furnished with the Patent S hety Fly Wheel, which does away with breakage of cutter and danger to the operator.

☞ The different sizes are on exhibition in our warerooms, and we shall be happy to mail descriptive circulars on application. Prices very low.

JOSEPH BRECK & SONS, Nos. 51, 52 and 53 No. Market St., Boston. sep4-1t


## THE BOSTON MARKETS.

So far as the Boston market is concerned, there is no material change in the butter situation from last week. Trade has been light and sellers have not been able to get any advance, though in the West the tendency has been to higher prices, owing to the steady shrinkage in the make. "Boston is now the lowest market in the country for butter," said a dealer yesterday, "because the demand all through August has been very light, but a start in September is sure to come, and then you'll see fine creamery selling at 25 cents." The prevailing opinion is that the market has now reached a turning point, and more activity is expected after this week, though how soon or how much prices will advance are questions nobody car answer at present. In Elgin, Illinois, on Monday, a rise of one cent was established, the sales being at 24 cents against 23 cents a week ago; and in Chicago extra grades are quoted firm and firm at 23 to 24 cents. Current rates here for the best Western Creamery, in round lots, do not go over 22 1-2 cents. Fresh Northern creamery is firm at 22 to 23 cents, but buyers have not yet made up their minds to pay the outside figure, except for small lots. Jobpers are getting 24 to 26 cents per pound for their finest stock, and some, who base values on the ruling price in the West are talking of charging 27 cents. For stock just below the finest 19 to 20 cents is a ruling rate in large lots, and a good part of the transactions come under this head. This can be jobbed out at 22 to 23 cents. A few New York and Vermont dairies command 18 cents per pound and upward, but for most of the dairy invoices, as they arrive, 15 to 17 cents is still the range. Owing to the number of poor tubs in each lot it is difficult to give a reliable quotation for dairy consignments. There has been some inquiry from exporters, but outward shipments continue small and do not attract much attention. At this time last year there was an upward tendency in the butter market, and extra creamery sold readily at 23 to 24 cents per pound in round lots. The difference between best creamery and dairy this year is much greater than ever before. For the month of August the receipts of butter were 74,381 tubs and 4967 boxes against 65,101 tubs and 4905 boxes for the same month last year.

St. Albans, Vt., Aug. 31.—Butter firm. General price, 16 to 17 cents; selections, 18 cents; fair to good, 12 to 14 cents. Shipments to-day, 1100 tubs.

**Cheese.**

There has not been much activity in the cheese market during the week, but at the close a little firmer feeling has been developed and there are indications of a better trade. More buyers have been operating in the country, and prices at Canton and Utica ruled a shade higher than the week previous. Still it is difficult to start prices here. The best makes cannot be quoted over 9 cents per pound, and receivers find it hard to get over 8 3-4 cents when a round lot is offered for sale. On the basis of the prices reported to have been paid in the country extra cheese should be worth here 9 1-4 cents as least, but for several weeks past our quotations rule lower than those at producing points. Where the profit comes in is more than outsiders can tell. The Montreal Gazette reports shipments of 62,275 boxes for the week, and finishes ask Hardware Dealers in country. "Montreal buyers swept everything both at Canton and Ogdensburg, taking 6880 boxes at 8 5-8 to 9 cents, which figures should be equal to at least 9 to 9 1-2 cents in the market at Montreal, and it may be that the August scoop has commenced." Receipts of cheese at Boston for the month of August were 26,792 boxes against 27,910 boxes for the same month last year.

There has been a fair demand for fresh eggs the past few days and prices have ruled steady at 17 1-2 to 18 cents for Eastern extras, 16 to 17 cents for Eastern firsts, 15 1-2 to 16 cents for New York and Northern firsts and 14 to 14 1-2 for Western. Some of the receipts have been subject to a large shrinkage, owing to the warm weather. Total receipts for the month of August 228 boxes, 698 barrels and 34,561 cases against 146 boxes, 145 barrels and 28,018 cases for the corresponding month last year.

**The Bean Trade.**

Prices of beans have not changed materially during the week, but there has been moderate and receipts ample for all requirements. The best grades of Vermont pea have been selling at $1.75 to $1.85, New York small pea at $1.60 to $1.70 and mammoth pea and choice medium at $1.50 to $1.55 per bushel. Improved yellow eyes move off fairly at $1.50 to $1.55. Total receipts for the month of August 5583 barrels against 2409 barrels for the corresponding month last year.

**Potatoes and Vegetables.**

The market has been well supplied with potatoes for a week past and prices have ruled low. There is every indication of a large crop, and the quality promises to be all that could be desired. New Hampshire rose and rounds have ruled at 60 to 65 cents per bushel, and New York at 55 to 60 cents. Hebrons hold the lead in popular favor. Sweet potatoes have been in liberal receipt, and sales ranged from $2 25 to $3 per barrel. All kinds of vegetables are plentiful. Cabbages have been selling at $2 to $3 per hundred. Onions rule principally at $2 25 per barrel. Marrow squash, $1 to $1 25 per barrel.

**Green Fruit.**

The market is well supplied with apples, receipts for the month aggregating 16,900 barrels, and prices rule low. For the best Williams and gravensteins $1.75 to $2 per barrel can be obtained, but ordinary varieties range mostly from 75 cents to $1.25. Pears are in large supply and selling at $2.50 to 3.50 per barrel. Peaches have been arriving quite freely, with sales on Monday at 50 cents to $1 per basket for fair to choice, and $1.25 to $1.50 for extras. Yesterday the market was a little firmer. Watermelons range from $10 to $20 per 100 for choice, and $25 to $30 for extras. Blueberries are dull at 5 to 6 cents per quart. Grapes sell rather slow. Plums are in liberal supply and rule comparatively low.

**Hay and Straw.**

The hay market is without animation. The best grades find a moderate sale at $18 to $19 per ton, but medium are slow at $15 to $17. Receipts of the latter have accumulated. Rye straw is not easy to place ar over $15 per ton, though some extra grades go higher. Receipts of hay for the month 678 cars and straw 167 cars.

**Hops.**

There are no new developments in the hop situation. Buyers are holding off, and any attempt to force sales would result in lower prices. The highest quotation for choice New York is 27 to 28 cents, but it would be hard to effect sales at over 25 cents. Sales of Pacifics at 23 to 24 cents.


MEDICAL MINUTES.

A reliable treatise on Nervous Debility, Vital Fluid Escapes, Impotency, Sexual Diseases, etc. Illustrated with colored engravings, 112 pages. Price, 25 cents by mail to any address, from the author,

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J. W. RICHARDSON, Agent, Boston

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FREE, The Fronefield's Cattle Powder Co. will send by mail free, a valuable package of their famous Cattle Powder to every Farmer who applies. It may save you hundreds of dollars. Address 346 Dillwyn Street, Philadelphia, Pa. sept-1t



SEDGWICK STEEL WIRE FENCE

In the best general purpose wire fence in use. It is a strong net-work without barbs. Don't injure stock. It will turn dogs, pigs, sheep and poultry, as well as horses and cattle. The best fence for Farms, Gardens, Stock Ranges and Railroads. Very neat, pretty styles for Lawns, Parks, School-lots and Cemeteries. Covered with rust-proof paint, or made of galvanized wire, as preferred. It will last a life-time. It is better than boards or barbed wire in every respect. The Sedgwick Gates made of wrought-iron pipe and steel wire, defy all competition in lightness, neatness, strength and durability. We make the most convenient and easiest working all-iron automatic or self-opening gate, and the neatest cheap iron fences now made. The best Wire Stretchers, Cutting Pliers and Post Augers. For prices and particulars ask Hardware Dealers, or address, mentioning paper,

SEDGWICK BROS., Richmond, Ind. sept - 1t



LORD & THOMAS, NEWSPAPER Advertising, 45 to 49 Randolph St., Chicago, keep this paper on file and are authorized to make contracts with ADVERTISERS. sept4-1t



GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1886. BAKER'S Breakfast Cocoa.

Warranted absolutely pure Cocoa, from which the excess of Oil has been removed. It has *three times the strength* of Cocoa mixed with Starch, Arrowroot or Sugar, and is therefore far more economical, *costing less than one cent a cup.* It is delicious, nourishing, strengthening, easily digested, and admirably adapted for invalids as well as for persons in health.

Sold by Grocers everywhere.

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CHALLENGE WIND MILLS never blow down, a record to no other mill can show. Send on 30 days' trial. Also feed grinders, corn shellers, pumps, etc. Agents wanted. CHALLENGE WIND MILL AND FEED MILL CO., Batavia, (Kane Co.) Ill. mch6 13t cow cjy4aug



$1000 Positively sure to Agents everywhere selling our New SILVER, BOILD WHITE WIRE CLOTHES-LINE. Warranted. Pleases at sight. Every 100 Days Sells readily at every house. Agents clearing $10 per day. Farmers make $600 to $1000 during Winter. Exclusive Territory. Circulars free. Address, GIRARD WIRE MILLS, Philadelphia, Pa. sept4-26tcow



Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

MIDDLESEX ss. PROBATE COURT.

To the Heirs-at-Law, and others interested in the Estate of MARTHA BUTTRICK, late of Carlise, in said County, deceased.

WHEREAS, GEORGE HETWOOD, Administrator of the estate of said deceased, has presented to said Court his petition for license to sell the whole of the real estate of said deceased for the payment of debts and charges of administration, and for other reasons set forth in said petition.

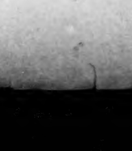
You are hereby cited to appear at a Probate Court to be holden at Cambridge in said County, on the first Tuesday of September next, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any you have, against the same. And said petitioner is ordered to serve this citatation by publishing the same once a week, three weeks successively, in the Massachusetts Ploughman, a newspaper printed at Boston, the last publication to be two days, at least, before said Court.

Witness, GEORGE M. BROOKS, Esquire, Judge of said Court, this eighteenth day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six.

J. H. TYLER, Register. aug21-3t



D. LANCELL'S ASTHMA AND CATARRH REMEDY



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Having been afflicted with Asthma for life and dealt with ASTHMA or PHTHISIC Cures by eminent physicians and receiving no benefit, was compelled during the last few years of illness to look on a chair day and night gasping for breath. Suffering from the most fond description. In despair experimented on myself by compounding roots and herbs and inhaling the medicine thus obtained. I fortunately discovered the Special Cure for Asthma and Catarrh warranted to relieve the most stubborn case of ASTHMA in Five Minutes, so that the patient can lie down to rest and sleep comfortably. Sufferers from Asthma, Catarrh, Hay Fever and all kindred diseases send for free trial package.

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FULL SIZE BOX BY MAIL, $1.00. jy24 4teow



$10.00 a pair for Bronze and Narragansett Turkeys. 30 per cent. discount for orders before Nov. 1st. T. Bunker on Turkey Raising, 25 cts. aug28—4t Address W. CLIFT, Hadlyme, Ct.



FOR FALL PLOWING, —USE— The Perfect Side Hill Plow.

The Improved North American. We will send this to any one in want of a side Hill Plow, and if not the best Plow to be obtained, it can be returned free of expense.

The Oliver Chilled Plow.

The best Land side Plow in existence, over 2,000 of them sold from Boston last year. We guarantee this Plow to be superior to any Landside Plow in the market.

These are the best Plows for Meadow Plowing, fitted with Marsh Point and Roller Cutter.

THE DANIELS' ENSILAGE CUTTER, warranted to excel all others in strength, durability and rapidity of work.

GRAY'S HORSE POWERS. CIDER MILLS—best makes. HAY CUTTERS. WINE PRESSES. FRUIT PRESSES.

The Common Sense Potatoe Digger—warranted to give satisfaction.

Barrel Headers, Fruit Pickers, Baskets, Meadow Shoes, Cranberry Rakes.

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## AGRICULTURAL FAIRS -- 1886.

| State, Provincial, etc. | |
|---|---|
| Alabama, Montgomery | Nov. 8, 13 |
| American Institute, New York | Sept. 29, Dec. 3 |
| Arkansas (Colored), Pine Bluff | Oct. 19, 24 |
| Bay State Agricultural Society, Boston | Oct. 5, 8 |
| California, Sacramento | Sept. 6, 18 |
| Canada Dominion, Sherbrooke | Sept. 23, Oct. 2 |
| Canada Industrial, Toronto | Sept. 6, 18 |
| Cincinnati Industrial | Sept. 1, Oct. 9 |
| Colorado, Fort Collins | Sept. 21, 24 |
| Connecticut, Meriden | Sept. 14, 17 |
| Dakota, Huron | Sept. 6, 10 |
| Delaware Dover | Sept. 28, Oct. 1 |
| Georgia, Macon | Oct. 25, Nov. 6 |
| Illinois, Chicago | Sept. 6, 10 |
| Illinois Fat Stock, Chicago | Nov. 8, 19 |
| Indiana, Indianapolis | Sept. 27, Oct. 2 |
| Iowa, Des Moines | Sept. 3, 10 |
| Kansas, Topeka | Sept. 20, 25 |
| Kansas City (Mo.) Fat Stock | Oct. 22, 30 |
| Kentucky, Lexington | Aug. 31, Sept. 4 |
| Louisville, Louisville | Aug. 28, Oct. 23 |
| Maine, Lewiston | Sept. 14, 17 |
| Maryland, Baltimore | Sept. 13, 18 |
| Michigan, Jackson | Sept. 13, 17 |
| Minnesota, St. Paul | Aug. 30, Sept. 4 |
| Montana, Helena | Aug. 25, 28 |
| Nebraska, Lincoln | Sept. 10, 17 |
| New Hampshire, Manchester | Sept. 14, 16 |
| New Jersey, Waverly | Sept. 13, 17 |
| New Mexico, Albuquerque | Sept. 28, Oct. 1 |
| New York, Utica | Sept. 23, 29 |
| North Carolina, Raleigh | Oct. 25, 30 |
| North Carolina, Horticultural, Fayetteville | Aug. 4, 5 |
| Ohio, Columbus | Aug. 30, Sept. 3 |
| Ontario, Guelph | Sept. 20, 25 |
| Oregon, Salem | Sept. 13, 18 |
| Pennsylvania, Philadelphia | Sept. 6, 18 |
| Rhode Island, Providence | Sept. 20, 24 |
| St. Louis, St. Louis | Oct. 4, 9 |
| South Carolina, Columbia | Nov. 9, 12 |
| Texas, Dallas | Oct. 6, Nov. 26 |
| Tri-State, Williams Grove, Pa. | Aug. 30, Sept. 4 |
| Vermont, Burlington | Sept. 29, Oct. 1 |
| Virginia, Richmond | Oct. 20, 22 |
| West Virginia, Wheeling | Sept. 6, 11 |
| West Virginia, Central Clarksburg | Sept. 14, 17 |
| Wisconsin, Milwaukee | Sept. 20, 24 |
| **Maine.** | |
| Aroostook, Houlton | Sept. 30, Oct. 1 |
| Aroostook North, Presque Isle | Sept. 14, 16 |
| Cumberland, Portland | Sept. 27, 3 |
| C Farmers' Club, West Cumberland | Oct. 6, 7 |
| Franklin, Farmington | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Franklin West, Phillips | Oct. 5, 7 |
| Kennebec, Readfield | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Kennebec North, Waterville | Sept. 21, 22 |
| Kennebec & Somerset, Fairfield | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Lincoln, Damariscotta | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Norridgewock, Elmwood Park | Oct. 1, 2 |
| Ossipee Valley, Cornish | Sept. 7, 9 |
| Oxford, South Paris | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Penobscot, East Eddington | Sept. 23, 24 |
| Penobscot North, Lee | Sept. 30, Oct. 1 |
| Penobscot West, Exeter | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Piscataquis West, Monson | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Somerset Central, Skowhegan | Sept. 21, 23 |
| Somerset North, Bingham | Oct. 8, 9 |
| Waldo, Belfast | Sept. 22, 23 |
| Washington Central, Machias | Sept. 22, 23 |
| Washington West, Jonesboro | Sept. 29, 30 |
| York, Biddeford | Sept. 28, 30 |
| **New Hampshire.** | |
| Belknap, Lacona | Sept. 7, 9 |
| Grafton, Plymouth | Sept. 21, 23 |
| Tilton Grange, Tilton | Aug. 31, Sept. 2 |
| **Vermont.** | |
| Addison, Middlebury | Aug. 30, Sept. 1 |
| Champlain Valley, Vergennes | Sept. 8, 10 |
| Franklin, Sheldon | Sept. 1, 3 |
| Orleans, Barton | Sept. 28, 30 |
| Rutland, Rutland | Sept. 21, 23 |
| White River, Bethel | Sept. 22, 24 |
| **Massachusetts.** | |
| Amesbury & Salisbury, Amesbury | Oct. 5, 6 |
| Attleboro Farmers' & Mech's, Attleboro | Sept. 14 16 |
| Barnstable, Barnstable | Sept. 28, 29 |
| Berkshire, Pittsfield | Sept. 14, 15 |
| Blackstone Valley, Uxbridge | Sept. 28, 29 |
| Bristol, Taunton | Sept. 21, 24 |
| Deerfield Valley, Charlemont | Sept. 16, 17 |
| Essex, Newburyport | Sept. 28, 29 |
| Franklin, Greenfield | Sept. 30, Oct. 1 |
| Hampden, Chicopee | Sept. 22, 23 |
| Hampden East, Palmer |

# The Poet's Corner.

*Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.*

## A MOTHER'S STORY.

BY ELIZA F. MORIARTY.

Aye, fifty years ago to-day,
Alas, full well I know the date,
The darkest in the book of fate,
The day that left me desolate,
When my son Harold sailed away.

I stood upon the surf-swept shore,
Still on my lips his parting kiss,
And looking o'er the blue abyss
I heard the seething breakers hiss,
And felt I ne'er should see him more

His ship had crossed the harbor bar,
In shroud-like foam 'twas lost to sight,
Then all things wore the hue of night,
For my loved son, my sole delight,
By ruthless breezes borne afar.

The long weeks passed—slow misery—
My soul went out upon the main
O'er pathless wastes—its pilot. Pain—
A weary quest—a voyage vain—
For one who came not back to me.

Twelve months had wheeled their dreary round,
I sat and mused beside my door,
And heard the raging billows roar,
Like wounded things along the shore,
All else with quietude was crowned.

Then as I sadly mused and spun,
I felt my darling's presence near,
And o'er my thread fell tear on tear,
While through me crept a strange sweet fear,
And shadows flew athwart the sun

I raised my head, through tear-dimmed eyes
Beheld a bird of radiant hue,
As through the blossomed boughs it flew,
And scattered showers of silver dew,—
It seemed just flown from Paradise.

While rose upon the morning air
A song—a something half divine—
That round my spirit did entwine;
Ah, sure these raptured ears of mine
Had heard an angel unaware.

I bowed my head with reverence due;
My heart forgot its murmurings;
Then o'er me fluttered fleeting wings,
The singer soared in spiral rings,
And vanished in celestial blue.

This morn I sat beside my door
And thought of weeks far out to sea,
When lo! above the hawthorn tree
Rained down the wondrous melody
I heard near fifty years before.

Then flashed a vision on my sight—
A bird—none fairer eyes could view—
With floating plumes of rainbow hue
Amid the leafy branches flew,
And sang of love and heaven's delight.

It was my darling's spirit blest—
My Harold in this guise—
A messenger from Paradise
To sing my home-call to the skies,
Where my tired soul shall soon find rest.

When, long ago, I railed at fate,
The blessed bird brought sorrow's balm,
Concentred in that soothing psalm,
And now, with more than mortal calm,
I fold my feeble hands and wait.

Ere hawthorn blooms again unfold
I shall be gone past moon, past sun,
Life's clouded course forever run,
The burden dropped—the guerdon won—
And my lost son to have and hold.

# Ladies' Department.

*Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.*

## RODOLPH LAROOK.

### A STORY IN ELEVEN CHAPTERS.

BY LILLIAN WARD STORER.

CHAPTER IX.

Minnette's soul is crushed, but she bravely conquers her feelings and stoops at her husband's side, struggling to revive him. Water is brought and sprinkled upon his face, the doors and windows are thrown open to give him fresh air, but he does not revive. The company are becoming alarmed at his condition. Minnette is wild in her anguish. Dr. Larook is hard at work endeavoring to resuscitate his son, and Minnette's mother has discovered that his pulse ceases to beat. Mr. Windsor, a physician, has been sent for. The suspense manifested by all present is terrible; even Barton shows deep interest, but inwardly the interest lies in the hope that he will not revive, for then, he imagines, the coast will be made clearer for Minnette. The physician arrives and examines Rodolph. By the aid of powerful stimulants he succeeds in partially restoring animation. There is a little motion in his pulse, his cheeks present a little color, his breathing is more regular, his eyes open, but they are dull; a little motion is seen in his fingers, his eyes wander about the room, then close again; all is still and hushed. While these events are transpiring within, the neighbors, who idolize Rodolph, have heard through the servants, the calamity to Rodolph and the cause of it. They are indignant towards Barton, but not to the policeman, who is looked upon as the instrument of Barton. They meet together and are resolved to avenge Rodoiph by tar and feathering Barton. Hearing that Rodolph cannot live, they make quick work in consummating their plans, and at the instant of Rodolph's death, they are prepared to clutch Barton at the moment he makes his appearance at the door. They believe him a fraud, and the charges against Rodolph false, for no one who led such a virtuous and noble life as he could be guilty of the crime attributed to him. They are kept informed of the proceedings within the mansion and the condition of Rodolph.

Rodolph has been placed in an easy chair, and is taking notice of things now, and makes an effort to speak. Minnette hastens to catch his utterances. He attempts to rise but falls back again into his chair. The physician gives him a little nourishment, and the patient strengthens. As the company are manifesting their pleasure at the hope of Rodolph's recovery, Barton demands of the sergeant his arrest. The numerous friends assembled without, hearing the demand, cannot control themselves longer, and they rush into the mansion. The leader, in a commanding tone, said:

"Show us the man who accuses our friend and neighbor of such foul deeds and we'll give him a warm reception in the twinkling of an eye, and you, Mr. Policeman, if you know what is best, make tracks at once. Come, boys."

The policeman dared not make any resistance, and Barton begging for mercy cowardly trembled from head to foot, as they advanced to seize him. Rodolph struggled to speak; he raised his head, and, observing him, all was hushed.

"Pray do not harm him," he calmly said, and to the mob he said: "Friends, be kind enough to depart, and, trust me, all will be well." And they departed.

Then spoke Mr. Larook to Barton and the policeman, excitedly:

"False liar, away! Cursed"—

Rodolph faintly hushes and motions to his father.

"Father, curse them not,—I—I am guilty."

"Guilty?" said Mr. Larook in astonishment. "My son guilty? Then would to God you had never been born. Oh, why did I journey thither?"

Rodolph chokes and gasps and falls back into his chair, and whispers: "Death knocks gently at the door, and bids my spirit upward soar."

"What," moans Minnette, "my husband dying! No, no, it cannot be. Rodolph, you must live!"

Mr. Larook stooped at his side, and said; "Live, Rodolph, revive. I—I forgive you. Live"——

"Live!" murmured Rodolph, "for what? A branded name for life, and a troubled conscience before me, for these must I live?" and he sanks back into his chair again and all is silent.

Darbin, the old colored servant of Mr. Larook, has tracked his old master here. He looks into the door, and says:

"I hears my old massa's here and tho't I'd took a peep." He discovers Mr. Lorook. "Ha! ha! golly, dar he am!" and he manifests exceeding delight, jumps up and dow and finally settles into a negro jig. Mr. Larook, hearing the noise, advances towards Darbin.

"Hush, Darbin, behold Rodolph. I fear he is dying."

Darbin goes up to him. "Dying, my young massa, good massa, God lubs massa. I lubs massa."

Rodolph motioas to Minnette.

"God willing, my property I'll divide ere I pass away. To the poor of the city, I give the income of $25,000. To my father $10,000; the balance of my fortune belongs to you, Minnette. Good, loving wife, an angel you've been to me—bless you!"

Mr. Windsor and others beckon to the police to retire.

The sergeant answered: "With my prisoner. The duties of my office forbid me to retire without."

Minnette rises instantly to her feet and looks defiantly at the sergeant.

"Monster! go to yonder church-yard and feed your hunger, but pray do not snatch my all, for life still lingers there."

"Sergeant," cries Barton—Darbin has just recognized Barton as he is speaking, and he looks at Barton and Rodolph alternately. Barton continues, addressing the sergeant, "Don't forget yourself. The Larook robber" (he raises his hand to point to Rodolph)—"is"—and Darbin, before the sentence is finished, points to Barton and shouts "I'a dar! Ha! ha! dar!"

All look at Barton in astonishment.

"You lie," exclaimed Barton, "you black nigger."

"Lie? Ha, yah, don't belieb dat." replied Darbin.

Barton address the sergeant.

"Kick that nigger out!"

"Hold a bit, ha yah, golly!—just a bit," chuckles Darbin. "Dat Rodolph didn't rob massa Larook, I was dar." He points to Barton. "Dar's de man—I seen him."

CHAPTER X.

The sergeant observing Barton advances toward Darbin, seizes him by the collar and holds him fast. Rodolph revives and rises slowly with Minnett's assistance. All present breathe easier to know that Rodolph is cleared.

"Darbin," Rodolph faintly murmurs, "you have an honest soul, but you are mistaken. I cannot, my friends, be longer a party to defeat the end of justice. I believe in law, and the law should be obeyed. We are part and parcel of the government. You and I send our agents and representatives to the legislative halls to make laws for us, and we all agree to abide by them; neglect them, and each lives for himself alone, and we sink in to a state of barbarism. You did me the honor to elect me your representative to Congress, to assist in making laws for you, and am I honorable to myself, to my God, and to the government, to longer evade the end of the law, in order to escape that punishment, which we all dread, but which, nevertheless, I deserve."

"Listen friends: In a state of stupor and enraged against the world for ill usage, my wrath found vent in giving insult to a traveller passing my den, whom I knew not, nor knew I what transpired, when at the mouth of the den, to my surprise a pocket-book containing two hundred dollars in my coat I found. In tohse days I drank to drown my sorrows, and many an act, performed in a state of intoxication, I could not account for the doing; but the law does not excuse drunkeness, nor the acts resulting therefrom, and justly so. Minnette, father and all, I sinned and must pay the penalty. I'll to the mast, the stores on the principle thoroughfares closed, a procession is seen winding its way from an elegant mansion to a distant churchyard. It is made up of town's people, tich and poor, all and every one paying loving tributes to the dead body of the man they dearly loved. He was their benefactor; and no man, whether high or low, escaped his high and noble influence. No greater mourner, save his dear wife Minnette, was among the throng than Frank Barton, while at the grave of Rodolph, after the funeral rites were ended and the mourners and friends returned to their several homes, was seen kneeling poor Barton with tears streaming down his cheeks and uttering solemnly:

"He was my savior, and never upon this earth shall I see his like again."

THE END.

# The Valletort Diamonds.

[From the London Truth.]

People were always asking each other how the Valletorts kept their heads above water. They were known to be in a state of chronic impecuniosity, and yet, somehow or other, they contrived to show a bold front to the world. Their pretty riverside villa at Twickenham was furnished luxuriously. Captain Valletort, who had retired from the service some years before, drove a dashing mail phaeton and pair, and Mrs. Valletort was one of the best-dressed women in London. How it was done no one knew. Captain Valletort dabbled on the stock exchange, and was one of the best ecarte players going; but neither of these sources of income was likely to afford him the means of gratifying his expensive tastes. Mrs. Valletort had no private fortune; but she, too, spent a good deal of money, although she was always telling her dearest friends that she was dreadfully hard up, for Edward had made several unfortunate speculations lately, etc., etc.

Still, in spite of this, the impecunious pair lived in good style, and were apparently prosperous. They were in debt, of course, but by some unknown means they kept creditors and duns at bay. They did not entertain much, but as Mrs. Valletort was extremely pretty, and her husband had the knack of making himself agreeable in society, and made it a rule never to borrow money of his friends, the Valletorts were a good deal in request at dinners and dances during the season, and were always glad to see them, for their light-hearted, semi-Bohemian gayety was wonderfully infectious, and no dinner-party at which they were present ever went off badly. Captain Valletort was, besides, extremely popular at his club—the Bayonet; and Charlie Fenton, of the Guards, was in the habit of saying that he would rather lose money to Ned Valletort than to any man he knew. It was fortunate he took that view of the matter, for the unhappy youth very often rose a heavier loser when the Captain employed his talents against him; and it was equally fortunate that the latter possessed the difficult art of winning gracefully, for ecarte was his principal means of bringing grist to the mill, and many less philosophic men than young Fenton might have declined to try their luck a second time against such skill as his, had it not been for the pleasant, good-humored, nonchalant way in which the Captain pocketed his winnings.

One morning the husband and wife were seated at breakfast, when the Captain looked up suddenly from the newspaper he was carelessly reading, and said, with sudden eagerness, as his eye caught an announcement among the "Deaths":

"My dear, wasn't Lady Araminta Belchambre a godmother of yours?"

"Yes, but why do you ask?"

"She's dead—died at Mentone a week ago."

Mrs. Valletort clapped her hands, and her eyes brightened.

"Oh, Ned! I wonder if—if she has left me anything. I can't pretend to be sorry she is dead," she added, half-apologetically, "because she was ever so old, and I haven't seen her since I was a child."

"My dear Lilla, don't think that I expected you to dissolve into tears at the news," he interrupted, with a short laugh. "We always agree to be candid with each other. You didn't care a straw for Lady Araminta living; but if she really has done her duty as a godmother by putting you down in her will for a handsome sum, I am quite willing that you should get up any amount of enthusiasm for her virtues. But, seriously, do you think it likely she has done so?"

"I think it just possible she may," said Mrs. Valletort, looking thoughtfully at the flowers on the table. "I wish I had written to her oftener."

"It is no good of regretting anything of that sort now, my dear. We shall probably hear in a day or two from her solicitors—that is, if you are really down for a legacy."

"It will be a wonderful piece of luck if I am," remarked his wife, stirring her coffee thoughtfully. "We are dreadfully short of money just now."

Captain Valletort assented.

"Do you think we could raise anything on my expectations?" said Lilla, looking up brightly.

"I am afraid not. Old Morris made no end of difficulty about the last advance."

Mrs. Valletort's pretty face clouded, but only for a moment; her native light-heartedness soon reasserted itself, and all that morning she employed herself in rearing a magnificent Spanish castle on no more substantial foundation than that offered by the brief announcement in the *Times*.

Some days later a long blue envelope, addressed in a neat legal handwriting, was among the heterogeneous heap of letters—invitations and bills—Mrs. Valletort found awaiting her when she came down to breakfast. She gave a little gasp as she took it up, read the superscription, and examined the seal.

"My dear, if you want to know what is in that envelope, you had better open it," remarked the Captain, as he entered the room. "I could never understand why women waste time in studying the outside of their letters."

"Because they are afraid of being disappointed with the inside, and so put off the evil moment," rejoined his wife, seriously, as she slowly broke the seal.

"Oh, Ned, congratulate me!" she exclaimed rapturously, when she had mastered the contents of the letter. "That dear, sweet old thing has actually"——

"Left you some money?" interrupted the Captain, eagerly. "My dearest"——

"No, not money, but—her diamonds—positively all her diamonds." The little woman's eyes sparkled as she glanced triumphantly at her husband. "The celebrated Belchambre diamonds. They are magnificent, I know, for I have often heard my mother speak of them."

For a moment the Captain's face fell, but he soon remembered that a fine collection of diamonds represents a very handsome sum of money. His wife's legacy was not, then, to be despised.

"What do you think they are worth?" he asked, suddenly.

"Oh, I don't know; thousands and thousands of pounds, I should imagine," replied his wife, vaguely. "Ned, just think how well I shall look in them! I have so few jewels, and"——

"My dear girl, you don't mean to say that you intend to—to keep them," he gasped, as the dreadful possibility dawned upon his mind that Lilla might elect not to turn her costly legacy into hard cash.

"Of course, I mean to keep them," she retorted, coolly. "Oh, Ned, you don't—want me to—to sell them, do you?" she added pitcously, as the Captain's brow drew together ominously and an unpleasant light came into his eyes.

"You will do as you like, of course," he replied, irritably. They will be yours and not mine. But how any woman can care to deck herself out with diamonds worth several thousand pounds when she knows what it is to want money, passes my comprehension.

Mrs. Valletort was usually the most docile of wives; but she resented her husband's angry words, and was trebly determined to hold her own in this matter. The Captain saw that it would be useless to argue with her, so he turned away with a half-contemptuous shrug of the shoulders and a muttered anathema on the folly of women in general and of his spouse in particular. It was really too bad of Lilla; a few thousand pounds would have set him on his financial feet again.

In due course, after numerous delays inevitable in all legal matters, Mrs. Valletort came into possession of her legacy. By her husband's advice she had a safe constructed for her diamonds in her dressing-room, and the dingy leather cases containing the jewels were at once consigned to this repository. On the first available opportunity Mrs. Valletort (who had been burning to display her treasures before the eyes of her friends) donned her diamonds and appeared in a blaze of splendor before her husband who was awaiting her in the drawing-room.

"How do I look?" said she, with a triumphant sweep of her own draperies, as she entered. Mrs. Valletort had lately ordered much extra raiment on the strength of her new possessions; for, she argued, it would never do to wear such diamonds with half-worn dresses.

The Captain glanced at the glittering tiara on his wife's head, at the magnificent dress and at the splendid jewels on her neck and arms.

"You are positively dazzling, my dear," he said, ironically. "No Hindoo idol was ever more bedizened."

"Thank you," retorted his wife, with a sweeping courtesy. "The compliment is not sincere, but I accept it, nevertheless. Please remember, though," she added, with a bitter laugh, "that Hindoo idols have many worshipers, and no doubt other people will see something to admire in me besides my diamonds."

At the ball to which they went that night Mrs. Valletort created quite a sensation. The story of her godmother's costly bequest had got about, and every one was anxious to see the celebrated Belchambre diamonds. Secretly envied her, though they shrugged their shoulders as she passed and wondered how long the jewels would remain in her possession. Men admired her charming face and graceful figure so much that they forgot all about her diamonds as they crowded round her, eager to secure a dance with the prettiest woman in the room.

Mrs. Valletort was in her element. She enjoyed herself immensely, quite ignoring the fact that her husband looked unusually morose, not to say sulky, as she whirled past him, radiant in the jewels he secretly coveted. After watching her angrily for some minutes, the Captain sauntered into one of the conservatories, sat down in a dusky corner, behind a huge azalea in full bloom, and fell to thinking of his financial difficulties.

Strange to say, since his wife had inherited the Belchambre diamonds, he had had a most persistent run of ill-luck. Everything went wrong with him; even his noted skill at ecarte seemed to desert him; old Morris, the money lender to whom he had had of course pretty frequently in the past (on the strength of his supposed expectations from a distant relative,) refused to advance him another pound, and total ruin seemed imminent. With this threatening cloud hanging over him, it is not surprising that the sight of his wife—decked out in jewels representing a sum that would have averted the coming storm for an indefinite period—enjoying herself with provoking light-heartedness, was not one calculated to soothe the Captain's irritated temper. On the contrary, it roused him to positive wrath. He determined to have a serious talk with Lilla on their return home; he would place their position before her in its true light; he would appeal to her common sense, and, then, if she refused to adopt his view of the affair, he would—the Captain was at a loss to determine the course he would pursue if his wife proved intractable. But he was growing desperate, and resolved to take some decisive step without further delay. He was too harassed to care to talk to anybody, much less to dance; so he spent the evening between the supper-room and the dimly-lit conservertories. People wondered a great deal at his taciturnity, but considerately left him to himself. Meanwhile, Mrs. Valletort more than atoned for her husband's shortcomings in the matter of liveliness. She was as brilliant as her diamonds. Her merry laugh was so musical, her smiles were so bewitching, her pretty face so radiant with good humor, that she was unanimously pronounced the belle of the ball.

The Captain wished to leave early, but his wife was resolved to remain until an hour that was "early" in a converse sense. The dawn was already breaking when they returned to Twickenham. Tired as she was, it would have been simply brutal to have attacked her on the subject of her jewels then, and the Captain, with all his faults, was not a brute. The next day, however, he seized the first opportunity of opening the discussion.

"Lilla, I have something very serious to tell you," he said, comiug into the drawing-room, where his wife was seated at the piano playing some of the waltzes they had heard on the previous evening.

Mrs. Valletort did not take her hands off the keys, but turned nonchalantly and looked at him.

"Don't tell it to me, if it is anything disagreeable,' she said, coldly. "Talking over things doesn't make them any better." And she went on playing.

"For heaven's sake, Lilla, stop that noise!" cried the Captain, irritably; "it's quite bad enough to be ruined, without being driven mad."

"Ruined!" echoed Mrs. Valletort, starting up and facing her husband. "Do you really mean what you say, or are you only trying to—frighten me?"

"I really mean it."

"Won't Morris advance anything?"

"Not a sou; and what is more, he threatens to make it disagreeable for me if I don't meet those bills next month—he wont hear of renewing them. Now, Lilla, the long and short of the matter is this—you must let me raise money on those diamonds of yours."

"Oh, Ned—Ned—don't take my diamonds away from me!" she whimpered, piteously, bringing out her handkerchief and putting it ostentatously to her eyes.

"Come, my dear girl, don't let me have a scene. You know I hate to see you cry."

Lillia was perfectly aware of the fact, and instantly several large tears rolled down her cheeks and fell on the pianforte keys.

"Oh, Ned, how unkind you are!" she sobbed, burying her face in her handkerchief.

"Unkind! nonsense!" muttered the Captain, uneasily. "My dear Lilla, do you think I would ask you to give me the diamonds unless I were put to the last straits for money? I tell you, if I can't raise several thousand pounds in the course of the next few weeks, I am a ruined man."

"You've got over your difficulties before, Ned. You may do so again, without selling my diamonds."

"Lilla, I can't argue the matter further," said the Captain, sternly. "I tell you that unless you make this sacrifice, I am ruined. Will you make it? Give me a plain answer—yes or no. I shan't ask you again."

Mrs. Valletort looked at her husband. He was very pale, and his face had a haggard, anxious look she had never seen there before. For the moment, a generous impulse prompted her to fetch the jewels and place them in his hands; but she recalled the scene at the ball the night before—the admiring and envious glances that had been darted at her from dozens of feminine eyes—and then she pictured the triumph of her women friends and the sneering remarks they would make when the news got abroad that she had been compelled to sell her diamonds after wearing them only once. A hard look came into her fine eyes as she turned them on her husband.

"I refuse to part with my diamonds," she said, coldly. "It is unfair of you to ask me to make such a sacrifice."

"Very well, my dear; then the deluge must come," replied the Captain, quietly. He turned and left the room, and Mrs. Valletort dashed into a brilliant *concerto* with a reckless determination to drown any compunctions she might have in a stormy ocean of sound.

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The Captain did not allude to the diamonds again, and things went on much as usual at the Laurels. But Mrs. Valletort grew nervous and fretful, and took to sitting a good deal in her dressing-room. The Captain kept his word; he never again broached the subject of the diamonds, but he brooded silently over it, and grew more morose and taciturn every day. He was deeply offended by his wife's conduct, and his irritation was aggravated by the continual worries which beset him. Morris was obdurate, and his other creditors threatened him with legal proceedings if he failed to liquidate his numerous bills. At last, driven almost to desperation, the unhappy man conceived a daring plan. If he could not get his wife's diamonds by fair means, he would get them by foul. He would steal the jewels. He had no sooner made up his mind to do this than he resolved to carry out the idea at once. He would not give himself time to think about it, for the word "robbery" has an ugly sound, and he did not care to say it above a whisper.

One evening, when his wife was dining with a friend in town, he found that she had forgotten to take her keys with her. The opportunity must not be lost; so good a one might not soon occur again. He, therefore, crept softly up to the dressing-room with the keys in his hand. Much to his astonishment, he found the window wide open, the furniture much disarranged, the door of the safe ajar, and—the diamonds gone.

For some moments he stood aghast, staring stupidly around. Then the dreadful truth flashed on him. Burglars had effected an entry while he was at dinner and carried off the jewels.

* * * * * * *

Before many hours were over, the news of another great jewel robbery spread over the country, and the services of skilled detectives were enlisted. But weeks passed and no glimmer of light was thrown on the mysterious burglary. With this calamity came another. Captain Valletrot's creditors pressed him so hard that he was compelled to take the iniatory steps for going through the bankrupt's court, and his name duly appeared in the Gazette. After this, the Valletrots found it expedient to leave England for a time. They resolved to spend the winter in Florence. In that pleasant city they were soon the center of a brilliant coterie, for Mrs. Valletort's beauty and grace and her husband's easy, good-natured manner were as much appreciated as in London.

One evening, when they had dined quietly at home, Mrs. Valletrot announced to her husband that she had something to show him that would surprise him considerably. The Captain rather listlessly declared himself willing to give her his attention, and Lilla, smiling rather wickedly, vanished from the room, reappearing soon after with a large card-board box under her arm, which she carefully placed on the table.

"What have you got there, my dear?" asked the Captain, in surprise.

"You shall see," replied his wife. "But first promise to let me have my way in this matter?"

"Very well. I promise."

"Oh, you dear, foolish Ned! Just see how much cleverer I am than you!" cried the little woman, exultantly, as she opened the box and took out several shabby leather cases.

The Captain stared as if he had been shot.

"Lilla, don't tantalize me like this," he cries angrily. "What have you got in those cases?"

"My diamonds—and their fac-similes in paste." And she displayed a mass of gems that positively dazzled him. "Listen to me for a few moments, and I will explain everything. Soon after you asked me to sell my diamonds, I began to suspect that you wanted to take them from me by stratagem, so I resolved to manage the matter my own way. I knew, if you had yours, the money would all be swallowed up by your debts, and, besides, I should lose every social advantage the possession of the diamonds gave me. I, therefore, arranged my dressing-room so as to overcome, in the matter of liveliness. She was as brilliant as her diamonds. Her merry laugh was so musical, her smiles were so bewitching, her pretty face so radiant with good humor, that she was unanimously pronounced the belle of the ball.

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The Captain did not allude to the diamonds again, and things went on much as usual at the Laurels. But Mrs. Valletort grew nervous and fretful, and took to sitting a good deal in her dressing-room. The Captain kept his word; he never again broached the subject of the diamonds, but he brooded silently over it, and grew more morose and taciturn every day. He was deeply offended by his wife's conduct, and his irritation was aggravated by the continual worries which beset him. Morris was obdurate, and his other creditors threatened him with legal proceedings if he failed to liquidate his numerous bills. At last, driven almost to desperation, the unhappy man conceived a daring plan. If he could not get his wife's diamonds by fair means, he would get them by foul. He would steal the jewels. He had no sooner made up his mind to do this than he resolved to carry out the idea at once. He would not give himself time to think about it, for the word "robbery" has an ugly sound, and he did not care to say it above a whisper.

One evening, when his wife was dining with a friend in town, he found that she had forgotten to take her keys with her. The opportunity must not be lost; so good a one might not soon occur again. He, therefore, crept softly up to the dressing-room with the keys in his hand. Much to his astonishment, he found the window wide open, the furniture much disarranged, the door of the safe ajar, and—the diamonds gone.

For some moments he stood aghast, staring stupidly around. Then the dreadful truth flashed on him. Burglars had effected an entry while he was at dinner and carried off the jewels.

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Before many hours were over, the news of another great jewel robbery spread over the country, and the services of skilled detectives were enlisted. But weeks passed and no glimmer of light was thrown on the mysterious burglary. With this calamity came another. Captain Valletrot's creditors pressed him so hard that he was compelled to take the iniatory steps for going through the bankrupt's court, and his name duly appeared in the Gazette. After this, the Valletrots found it expedient to leave England for a time. They resolved to spend the winter in Florence. In that pleasant city they were soon the center of a brilliant coterie, for Mrs. Valletort's beauty and grace and her husband's easy, good-natured manner were as much appreciated as in London.

One evening, when they had dined quietly at home, Mrs. Valletrot announced to her husband that she had something to show him that would surprise him considerably. The Captain rather listlessly declared himself willing to give her his attention, and Lilla, smiling rather wickedly, vanished from the room, reappearing soon after with a large card-board box under her arm, which she carefully placed on the table.

"What have you got there, my dear?" asked the Captain, in surprise.

"You shall see," replied his wife. "But first promise to let me have my way in this matter?"

"Very well. I promise."

"Oh, you dear, foolish Ned! Just see how much cleverer I am than you!" cried the little woman, exultantly, as she opened the box and took out several shabby leather cases.

The Captain stared as if he had been shot.

"Lilla, don't tantalize me like this," he cries angrily. "What have you got in those cases?"

"My diamonds—and their fac-similes in paste." And she displayed a mass of gems that positively dazzled him. "Listen to me for a few moments, and I will explain everything. Soon after you asked me to sell my diamonds, I began to suspect that you wanted to take them from me by stratagem, so I resolved to manage the matter my own way. I knew, if you had yours, the money would all be swallowed up by your debts, and, besides, I should lose every social advantage the possession of the diamonds gave me. I, therefore, arranged my dressing-room so as to overcome, in the matter of fritters. Sift an even teaspoonful of sea foam through the flour. Drop into boiling fat in small teaspoonfuls and fry quickly to a golden brown.


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# HOW BOY BLUE MENDED THE WORLD.

[Ida M. Lane in Harper's Funny People.]

Boy Blue was listening while Grandpa and another old gentleman talked. I don't know why they called him Boy Blue, unless it was because he had such blue eyes, for he would have been the very last boy to go fast asleep under a haystack while the cows were getting into the corn. Not he, indeed; those bright eyes of his would have spied them before they had taken a single mouthful of corn, and he would have been on hand with his big dog to make them scampar the other way in a hurry. If you asked that dog's name, Boy Blue would answer, "Guess," and after you had guessed Rover and Dash and Fido and Cario, and all the other dogs' names you ever heard of, and got tired of it and asked, "Well, what is his name then?" Boy Blue would still answer, "Guess," with his eyes just brimful and running over with fun. And then if you began again, and guessed all the dogs' names you never did hear of, and got quite out of patience this time, and declared you would not guess any more, and he must tell you, Boy Blue would laugh so hard that he would tumble down and roll around the ground shouting, "Guess! Guess!" for that was the dog's name.

Well, as I said, Boy Blue and Guess were listening to Grandpa and another old gentleman talking. Boy Blue was very much interested in listening, for they were telling about something which he thought needed to be attended to right away. They were saying that the world needed mending, that it was in a very bad way, and getting worse all the time; that things were not at all as they used to be, and nobody could tell where it would all end.

"Grandpa," said Boy Blue, "is it really true that the world needs mending?"

"Yes, indeed, child, badly enough," sighed the old man, shaking his head, but never looking down at Blue Boy's earnest face.

"But where, Grandpa?—where does it need mending?"

"Everywhere, child. You can't take a step, right or left, without seeing it."

Blue Boy looked around. Sure enough there was a big hole in the middle of the road. It had been there ever so long, and horses had stumbled into it, and wagons had jounced off part of their loads by running a wheel in it, and the drivers had scolded and grumbled, but nobody had ever tried to mend it. Boy Blue stood still and thought about it. The world was getting worn out, it was plain.

"It'll have to be mended, that's all about it," said he to himself. "I should think Grandpa and Mr. Peters would go right to work at it now. I know I can mend that hole in the road, anyhow, and that'll be so much done. Come along, Guess."

Guess came along, and did not hang back even when he saw the little cart pulled out, which he was not at all fond of drawing. He had learned by melancholy experience that if Boy Blue made up his mind to have a thing done, it had to be done sooner or later, and he might as well be good natured about it. So back and forth he trotted, dogfully doing his part to mend the world. It took a good deal of hard work to get big stones and little stones and gravel enough to fill that hole, but Boy Blue and Guess kept at it, and when the last cartful of gravel was finally stamped down hard, you would hardly have known there had ever been a hole there.

All that time Grandpa and Mr. Peters stood and talked and shook their heads; but Boy Blue did not miud them any more. He had found out what needed to be done, and he meant to do his part of it anyway. When the hole was filled up he looked around for something else to mend, and saw a hen hopping through a gap in the fence, where two pickets were off. Up jumped Boy Blue, as eager as ever, and trudged off for hammer and nails, and was soon pounding away at the pickets as if his life depended on getting them in place. He remembered now how many times Mother had run out yesterday to scare the hens away. People got worn out, too, sometimes, and had to be mended, he reflected.

Well, this would be one more thing mended. When he got the pickets on, he meant to go and nail down the loose boards on the back door-steps. Mother had said that morning that she believed she would break her leg on that board. It would be easier to mend the board than the leg, and would not take so long either.

When the fence and the steps were in good condition again, Boy Blue stood still a few minutes, not immediately seeing any more work to do. Presently he caught sight of a broken place in one of the square, hollow pillars of the porch. Joe had staved it in one day with the handle of his rake, and Boy Blue remembered that grandpa had said that it must be pretty rotten, or it would not have broken so easily. He looked at the hole, and poked his fingers into it; then he pulled out his knife and proceeded to investigate further. Then he went and examined the other pillar, and as the result of that examination, he dodged outside of the porch, and shouted, "Grandpa!" at the top of his lungs.

Grandpa, who had finished his talk with Mr. Peters, and was taking a quit doze on the sitting-room lounge, sprang up and rushed out on the porch, expecting to see at least Boy Blue lying on the ground under the big apple-tree with his leg broken. But Boy Blue's legs appeared to be perfectly sound, and he remarked calmly, "I wouldn't stand under that porch roof if I were you Grandpa, 'cause the pillars are so rotten it might come down almost any time."

"Pillars rotten!" said Grandpa. "Oh, nonsense! Is that all your screaming about?"

"Come out here and give me leave to give 'em one good hit?" asked Boy Blue, eagerly looking for a bit of fun after all his hard work. But Grandpa thought it prudent to examine before giving his permission, and the result of his examination was that he immediately went to work to prop up the porch roof with stout poles.

"May I now?" asked Boy Blue.

"Well, yes," responded Grandpa; "if they'll come down with one hit, they can't be of much use."

Boy Blue rushed off for a club, and aimed a valiant blow at one of the pillars, it cracked and with a splintering and crumbling noise the decayed wood fell into so many pieces that there was hardly one large enough to pick up. The other pillar met with a like fate.

"My patience!" exclaimed Grandpa surveying the ruins, "that thing might have come down on our heads and killing when we're sitting out here, and broke all our skulls for us. How did you come to find out it was so rotten, sonny?"

"Why, I was looking for something to mend, and I thought I'd mend that hole Joe punched in the pillar, and then I found it was so rotten I was afraid it would come down on my head; so I hollered at you."

"What do you want something to mend for?" asked the old man, in surprise.

"Because I heard you and Mr. Peters saying the world needed mending, and I thought I'd do my share; and I mended the hole in the road while you stood there talking, and then I fixed the fence and the door-step"——

"Mended the hole in the road!" interrupted Grandpa, greatly astonished; and down he went to the gate to see for himself that the dreaded hole was actually filled up and smoothed over as if it had never been.

"And he did it while we stood groaning over the world needing mending," muttered Grandpa, under his breath; "and it's been there for months, and neither of us ever thought of touching it. Such little hands, too! I hope the next generation will be like Boy Blue."

# Domestic Economy.

## CLAMS IN VARIOUS STYLES.

CHOWDER (Ingredients.)—One pint of clams, four ounces of salt pork, four medium size potatoes, two small onions, six sliced tomatoes and two pilot biscuits. Put the clams over the fire in their own liquor, boil two or three minutes and strain, setting both aside until wanted for further use. Let a frying pan get hot and put in the pork cut in dice, add the onions also cut small and fry lightly, but do not let either of them brown; stir in two tablespoonfuls of flour, and when cooked add the liquor from the clams, the tomatoes, the potatoes cut in dice, the least bit each of mace, thyme and pepper to taste. Cook slowly until the potatoes are done. If there is not enough juice add a cup or more of hot water.